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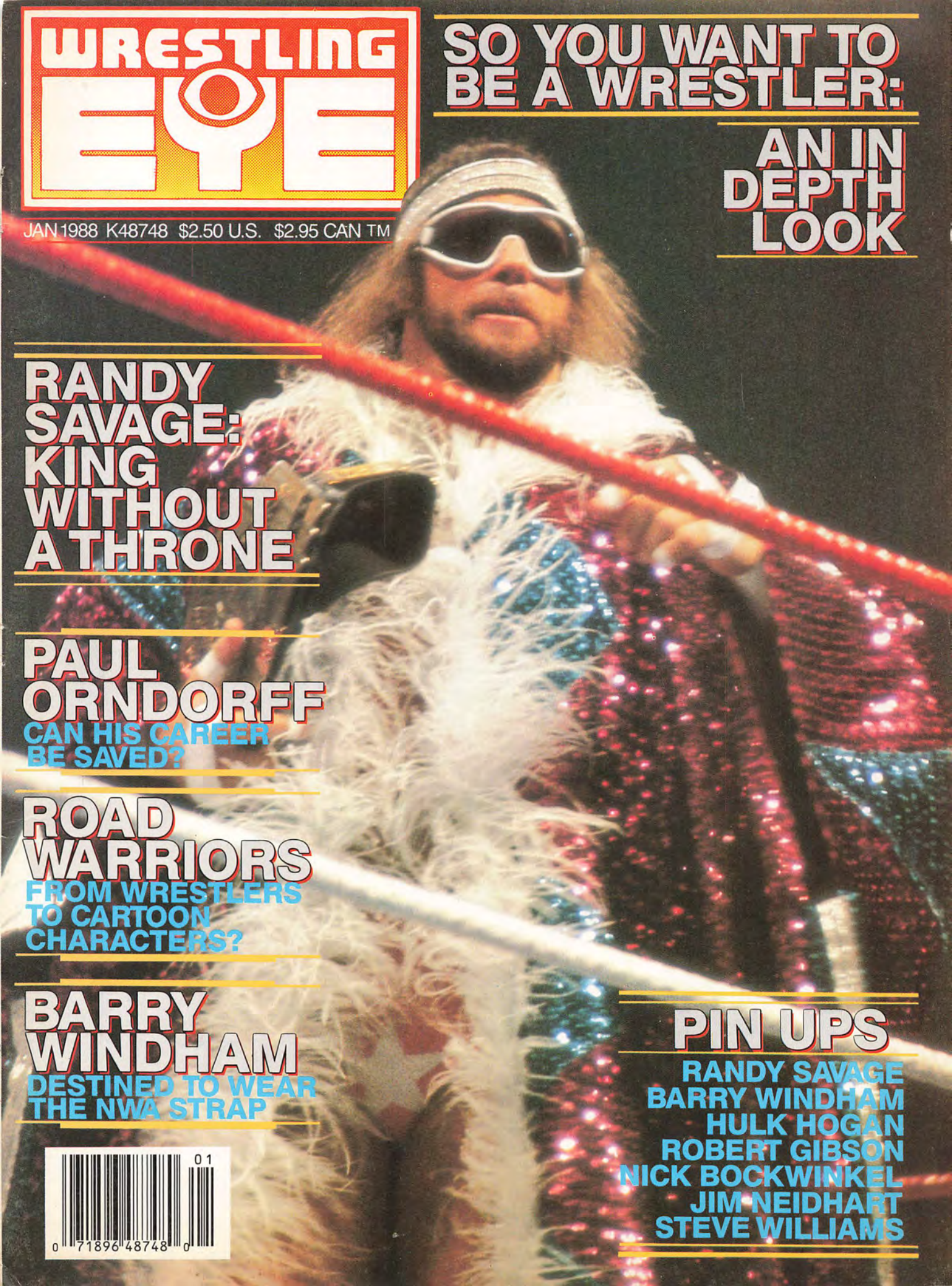

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PAUL ORNDORFF
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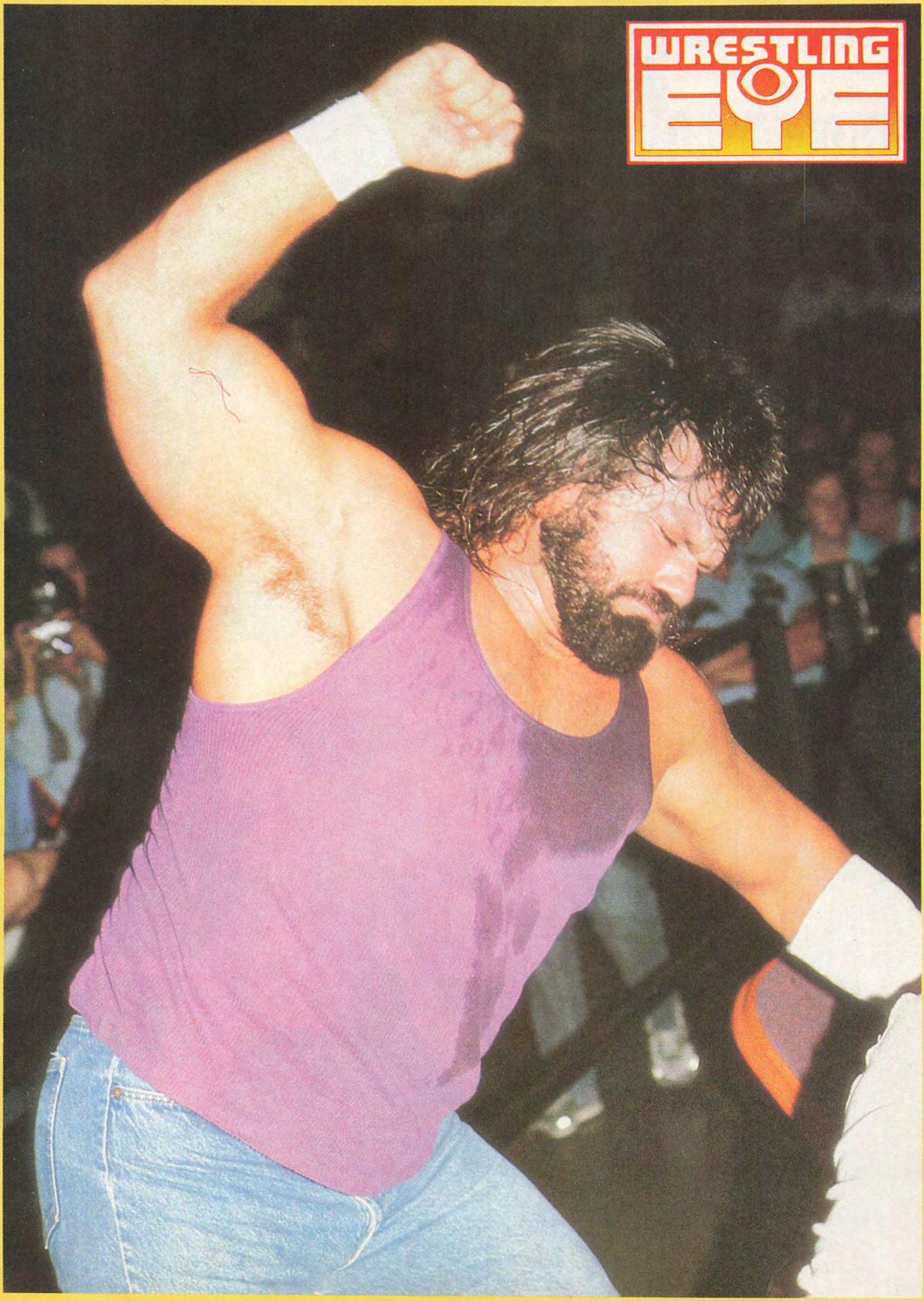

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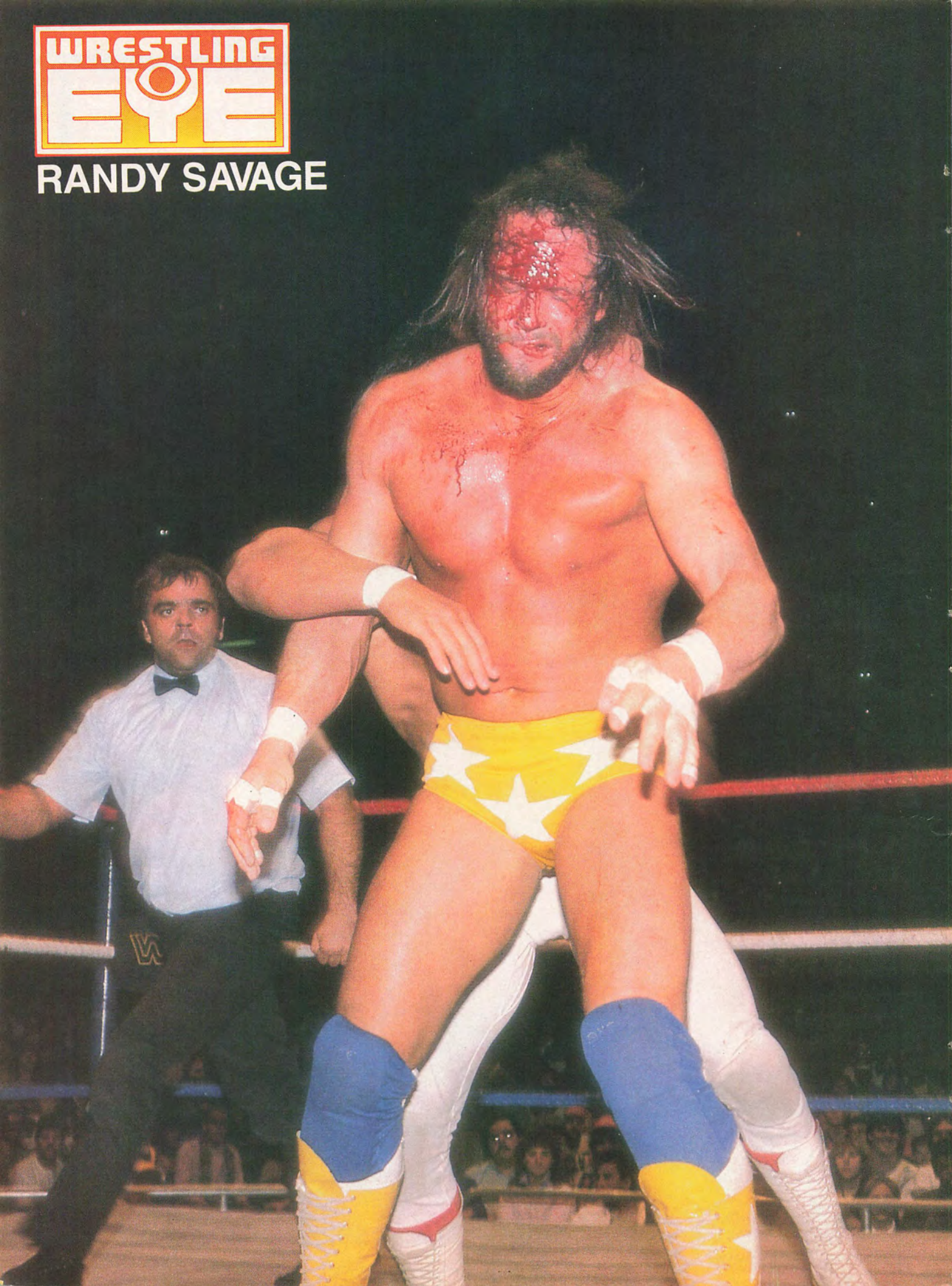
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CONTENTS

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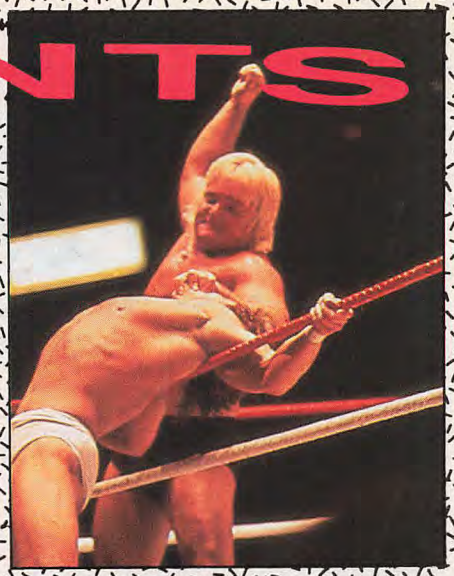

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FEATURES

SO YOU WANT TO BE A WRESTLER: AN IN DEPTH LOOK . . 6
PAUL ORNDORFF: CAN HIS CAREER BE SAVED? 12
BARRY WINDHAM: DESTINED TO WEAR THE NWA STRAP 16
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS? 21
BRET HART: WWF'S MOST UNDERRATED WRESTLER 24
RANDY SAVAGE: THE KING WITHOUT A THRONE 28
THE ROAD WARRIORS: FROM WRESTLERS TO CARTOON CHARACTERS 34
RICHARD BYRNE: USWF SUPERSTAR 45
MATCH OF THE MONTH: DAVEY BOY SMITH VS HARLEY RACE 53
D.C. "MADDOG" DRAKE: N.W.F. WORLD'S CHAMPION 60
INDEPENDENT STARS GALLERY 68
IVAN PUTSKI: POLISH POWER PERSONIFIED 70
OUTDOOR BATTLE AT FORT DIX 73

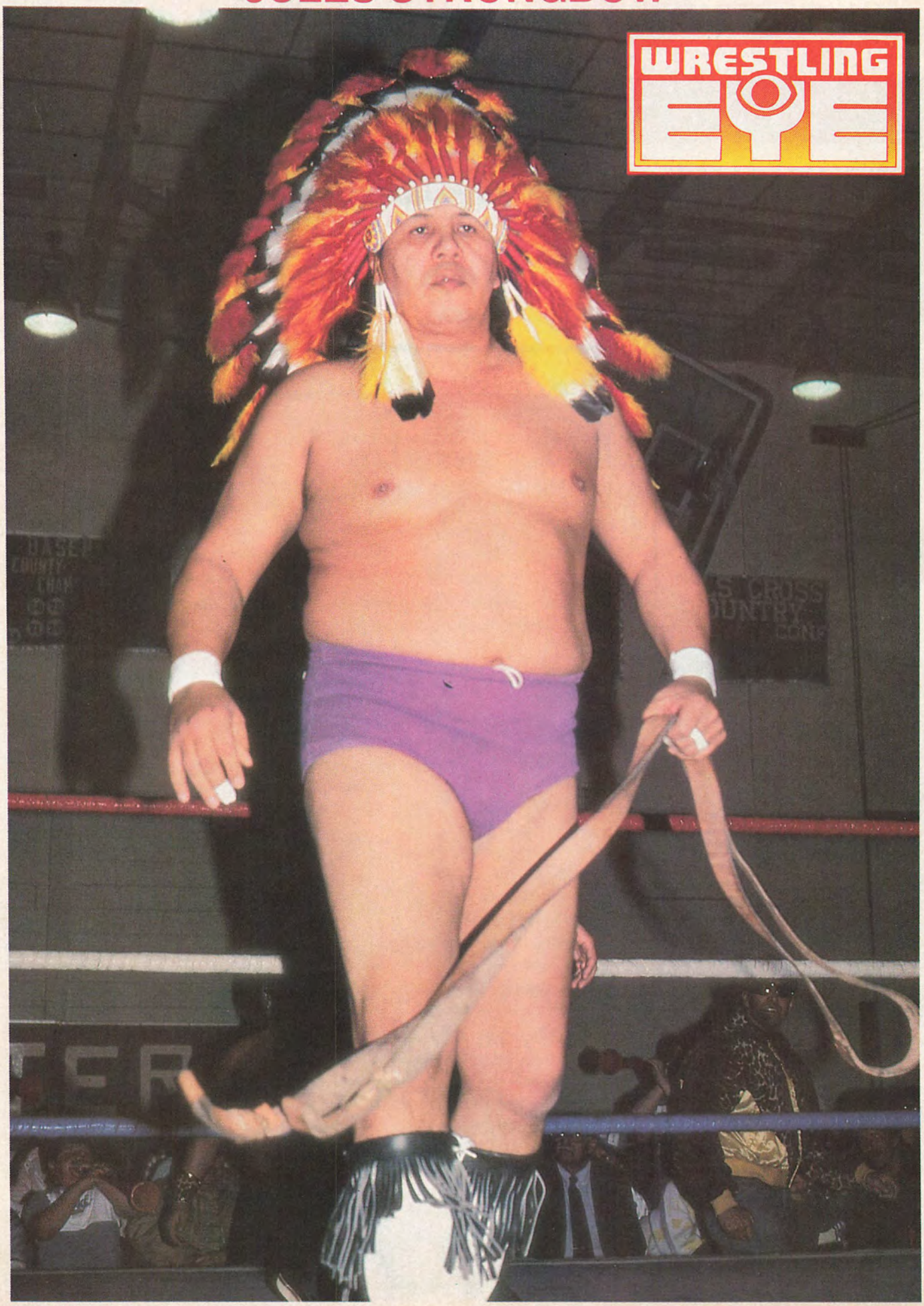
PIN-UPS

STEVE WILLIAMS 1
RANDY SAVAGE 2
JULES STRONGBOW 4
ROBERT GIBSON 37
JIM NEIDHART 38
NICK BOCKWINKEL 39
HULK HOGAN 40-41
FLORIDA TITLE AT STAKE 42
RICHARD BYRNE 44
DEMOLITION 77
BARRY WINDHAM 78
MISTY BLUE AND JOE KIDD 79
AL PEREZ 80
BIG BUBBA ROGERS AND JIM CORNETTE 81

DEPARTMENTS

EDITORIAL 5
AFTER THE THREE COUNT: KEVIN SULLIVAN 30
PHANTOM OF THE RING 50
OFFICIAL RATINGS 56
FAN CLUB COLUMN 58
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 64

JULES STRONGBOW



From the Editor's Desk....

"Blood In The Ring"

Unlike other sports, wrestling is a contact sport. It involves one's body to touch another. Sweat mixes with sweat, blood mixes with blood. Ever think of AIDS? Or some other type of disease that can be transmitted in body contact. It has been found in the medical world that AIDS can be contracted through the skin by body to body contact.

The W.W.F. has most recently required an AIDS testing for all of its wrestlers. That's really a great idea. Maybe they should also test the other employees of the World Wrestling Federation. The other wrestling organizations should also following in the same footsteps. It's always better to be safe than sorry. A little precaution can go a long way. Wrestlers are human beings and it's up to their employers to make sure working conditions are at an optimum level, so once again, hats off to the WWF for trying to protect the guys.

See ya' at the matches—

Carmine DeSpirito
Editor-In-Chief

"SO YOU WANT TO BE

It seems oh so glamorous of a career. You hear of the fancy limousines, and of beautiful goddesses falling all over the wrestlers. The seven figure contacts and endorsements from ice cream bars to dolls make it seem so glittery and more importantly—extremely easy to achieve. As in just about any worthwhile profession, to make it to the big-time level, one begins their apprenticeship in relative obscurity and works his or her way up. Professional wrestling, in comparison to any other professional sport or in corporate America, has so many rewards to offer. To make it to the superstar level, in all likelihood for a wrestler, male or female, the majority of grapplers begin their career in a dingy, gym or fitness center. The most important ingredient for those with hopes of joining the pro ranks is to be taught by a well schooled master of all that happens in the 'squared circle'.

Unfortunately, up until a few years ago, there were but a handful of training schools for those wishing to pursue a pro wrestling career. The late Lou Klien aka Lou Bastein, ran an instructional academy in a Detroit suburb for many years. Many of Lou's students went on to enjoy a successful

Bruiser Brody, along with the instructor of Passariello's Quest in Orange, Ct., Dr. 'D' David Shultz. Bruiser by the way was trained by Lou Thesz.

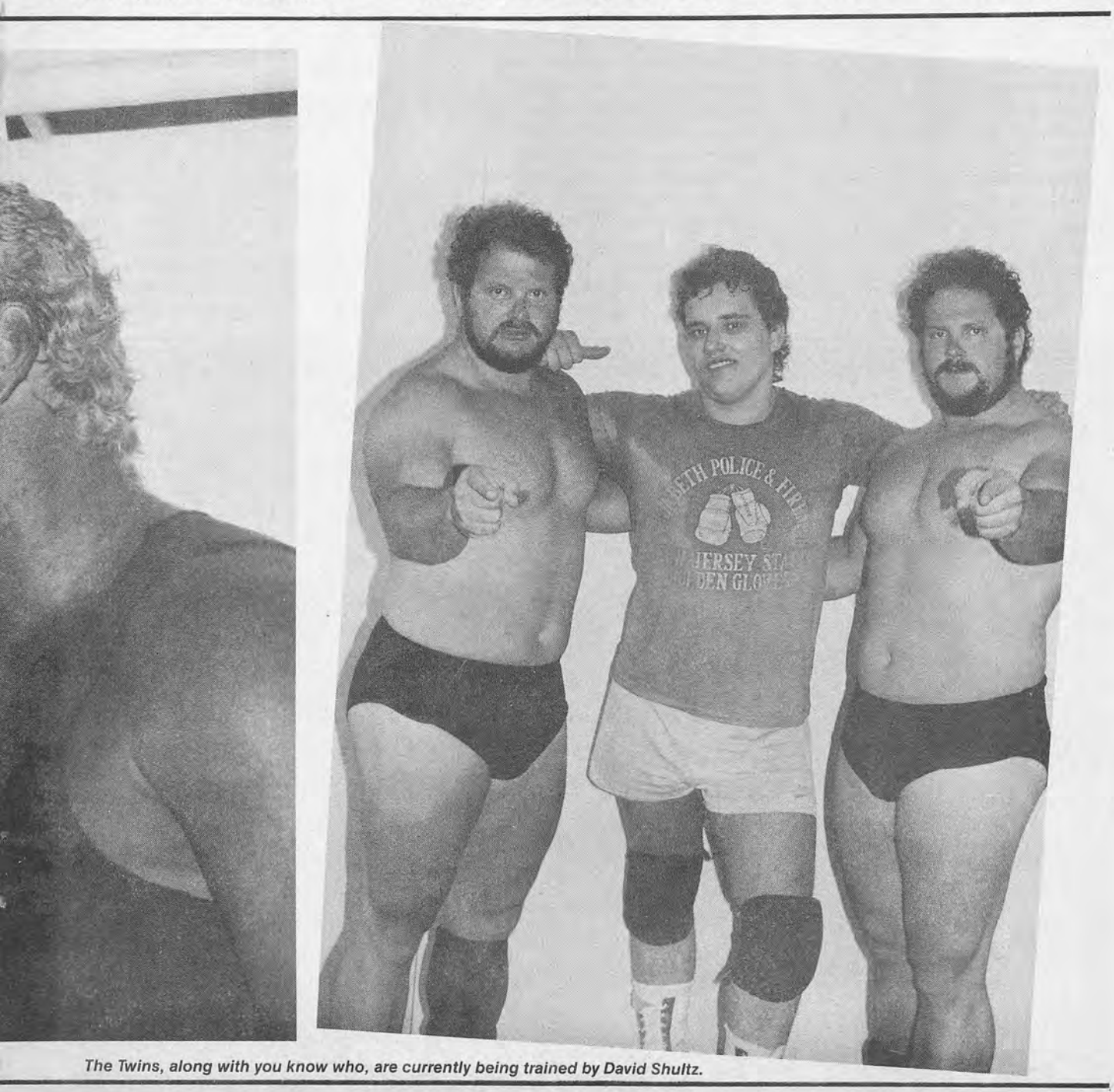
A WRESTLER'' "AN IN DEPTH LOOK."

By Don Liable

wrestling career. Denny Alberts and John Boy Ruffin graduated from Klien's school of 'hard knocks' and became headliners in the Ohio-Michigan region for several years.

Unlike other pro sports, wrestling doesn't have a minor league system in which to draw talent from. For the most part, professional wrestling has always been looked upon as a 'closed sport.' Unless you were lucky enough to have a relative involved in the sport, your chances of breaking the 'inside' barrier was difficult, at best. There has been scores of men with bulging muscles looking to make a quick fortune in what on the surface appeared an easy avenue to success. Time and time again they found out the hard way, by breaking a bone or getting severely bruised during a workout.

The opposite holds true today for the average fan or accomplished amateur on places where they can attend for instructions on attempting to turn pro. The current realm of training facilities seems to stem from the first widely publicized place of its kind. Back in 1978 when the legendary former National Wrestling Alliance Champion Walter 'Killer' Kowalski retired and settled in the Boston area, the



The Twins, along with you know who, are currently being trained by David Shultz.

6′7″ Detroit native created his own institute of professional wrestling. Although he was retired from 'active' duty in the ring for a short spell, the 'Killer,' originally from Canada, became itchy to once again be active in a sport that gave him so much.

Before long he trained so many individuals that they were being booked by promoters almost as fast as they completed their training. Current female attraction Misty Blue is one of the ladies who was trained by Kowalski. Always on the scout for students to enroll in his program, Kowalski commented that he is especially interested in teaching the ins and outs of the sport to females and midgets.

For those interested in learning more details on Kowalski's highly recommended school, you may contact him at: P.O. Box 67 Reading, Ma. 01867.

Before mentioning the other fine current wrestling schools, it's only proper to make mention of the Tony Santos school that was an outstanding breeding ground for wrestlers in the 1950's and 1960's. Located in New England, those that appeared throughout the Boston area were a sure bet to have been a Santos grad. The famed Boston Arena housed many a Santos wrestling spectacular. Greats such as Pat Patterson, Chris Colt, Ron DuPree and Don Fargo, along with 'Crazy' Luke Graham, entered the pro ranks via the Santos program.

For a tuition fee, those who dedicate their minds as well as their bodies to becoming the best they can be, usually succeed to great heights. Once the apprentice period ends, most wrestlers, regardless who their father or uncle may be in the sport, start with small launching promotions. Remember, even the great Babe Ruth played in the minors! A prime example of a small independent group that has sent fine talent to the 'big-time' was the late Henry Rogers' promotions. Based in a small oversized barn-like arena in Malden, Mo. In 1979, Rogers had three youngsters appearing regularly on his cards. They have all gone on to be main eventers. 'Hot Stuff' Eddie Gilbert, the CoCo Kid (now KoKo B. Ware) and Wayne Ferris (currently with the World Wrestling Federation as the Honky Tonk Man) all started together.

In the South, ring veteran and current Eastern Wrestling Association Heavyweight Champion Johnny Hunter continues to train would-be stars of the mat. One of his first and far most accomplished pupils is Rick Link. Link, at one time managed by Jimmy Hart, has toured Australia, New Zealand and Canada under the billing of Man Mountain Link and Sir Rickton Link. Hunter would be more than interested in hearing from fans about a career in wrestling. The EWA champ can be reached at: P.O. Box 1293 Lexington, N.C. 27292.

Ladies you haven't been forgotten by The Fabulous Moolah aka Lillian Ellison. You can write to the former title holder for information on her training camp at: P.O. Box 6455 Forest Acres—Columbia, S.C. 29206. 'Flying' Billy Anderson, a ring vet of 13 years who has wrestled Curt Henning for the American Wrestling Association title, also operates an exemplary school of wrestling skills. If you're

The Motor City Madmen, seen here training at the Monster Factory.

interested, drop Billy a note at: c/o Laster 901 E. Washington Apt. 334 Colton, Ca. 92324.

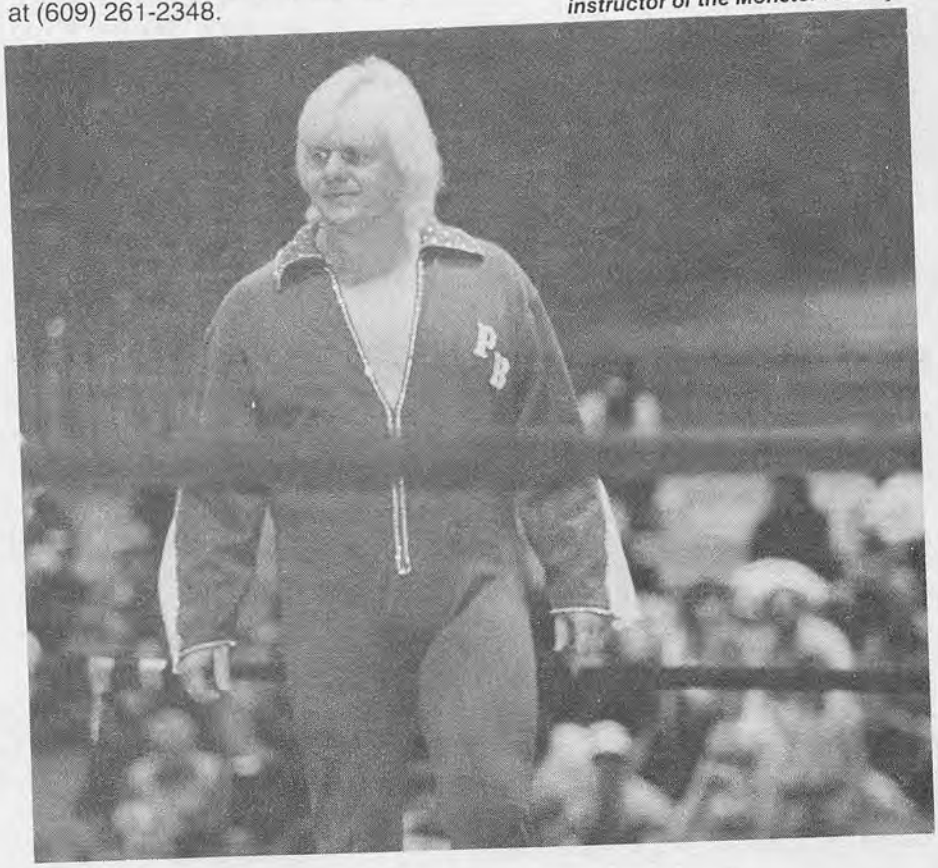
Not only have individuals jumped on the wrestling school craze but entire organizations have also gotten involved. The Universal Wrestling Federation has seen fit for a need of a program to develop outstanding talent for the future. With the increase of popularity that professional wrestling continues to enjoy, more and more quality ring athletes will be in demand.

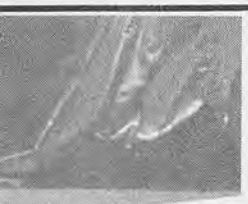
It's comforting to be reassured that greats like Kowalski, Anderson and Hunter are doing their share to preserve the integrity of the very exciting, very colorful world of professional wrestling.

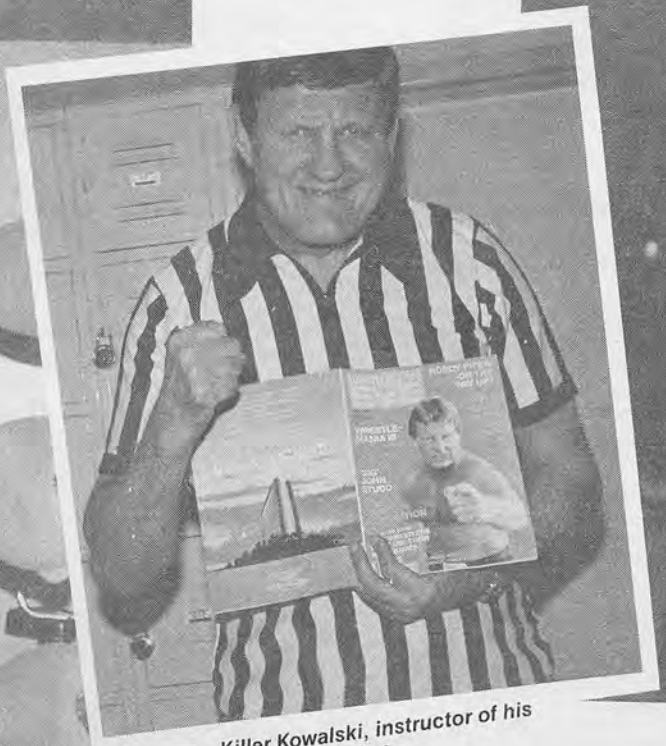
David Shultz also runs a pro wrestling school, in Orange Ct., at Passariello's Quest Gym. Passariello's Quest is really the best equipped Gym to train to wrestle with modern workout facilities. At the Quest you are taught personally by Dr. 'D' David Shultz. The self professed, toughest man in wrestling. You may contact David by writing to him at P.O. BOX 3965, New Haven, Ct. 06525.

Last but not least, another wrestling school run by Pretty Boy Larry Sharpe in South Jersey is probably the most famous of all the schools. The school is called the Monster Factory, and you can contact Larry at (609) 261-2348.

Pretty Boy Larry Sharpe, instructor of the Monster Factory.







Killer Kowalski, instructor of his school in Boston.

Big John Studd, was trained by Killer Kowalski in Boston.

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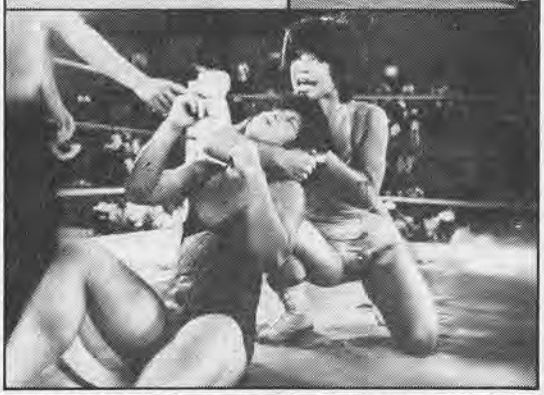
INTERNATIONAL BATTLE ROYAL

Features Jaguar Yokota, "All The Marbles" star Mimi Hagiwara and Omori Yukori vs. the beautiful, but deadly, Devil Masami, Lei Lani Kai, and in a rare stint as a villainess, Irish Velvet McIntyre. Mimi really takes her lumps in this one. **Bout 2.** For the World Championship. Sensational Vickie Williams vs. Jackie Sato. Not only does Vickie choke, gouge and stomp Jackie, she brings her own referee! It's a near riot as these two gals battle for world dominance! **Bout 3.** Jaguar vs. Dallas Cowgirl Wendi Richter in a wonderful matchup, featuring speed and skill vs. brute strength. *#VC-11*

SUBMIT OR SUFFER!

Contains two very **bizarre** matches! In bout #1, Julie and Laurie agree to a match in which only leg hold submissions will determine the winner and they'll fight until one can't continue. The victim is subjected to punishment that is merciless and the gym echoes to cries of pain and screams of submission until one girl cannot continue. In the second bout Penquin and Alison battle furiously. One gains the upper hand and starts punishing her opponent in ways **not** found in the rule book. When it escalates into a brawl, wrestling gives way to chaos! *#RGV-17*



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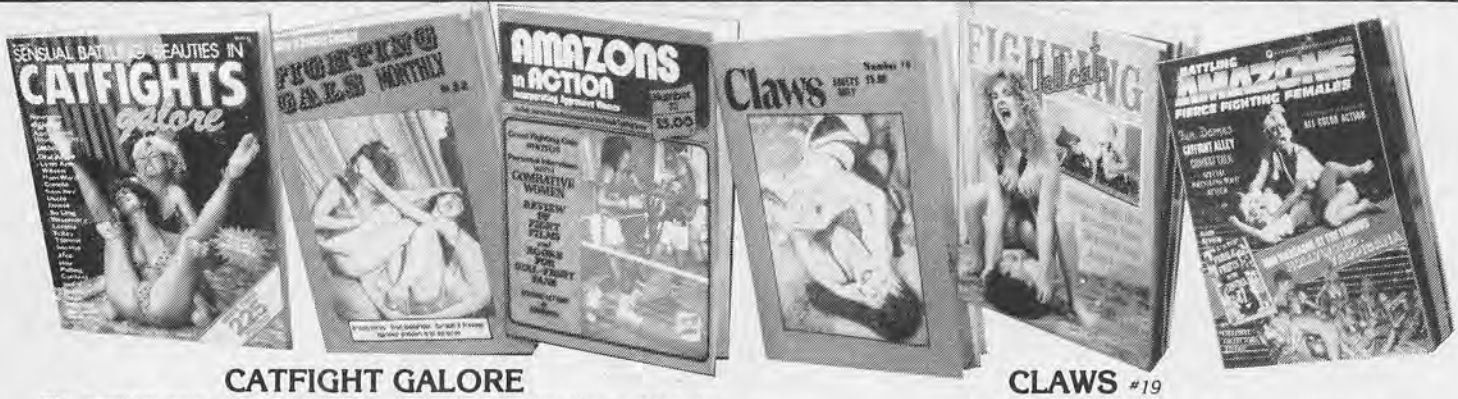

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TOURNAMENT TIGRESSES

Brings you the final matches of the tournament — and they are 3 gems! The first pairs Alison against June. This match erupts into a brawl before the openning bell sounds. The two girls never let up. Both are tough, strong and merciless. Bout 2 features club champion Lorraine, a tall, powerful beauty, against Suzie who is smaller but no less determined. Suzie gives Lorraine a rough time, but finally the champ exhibits a body scissor that goes beyond being punishment . . . it's paralyzing! The final match pits the champ Lorraine against the former champ Shiela. This is a contest you'll long remember. It's female wrestling at it's finest! *#RGV-4*

BIKINI BOXING & WRESTLING

Features those kinky ladies of the British Isles. Bout one between Lori and Julie starts off as a boxing contest, but things quickly get out of hand and the gloves come off. Body slams and knee drops are used with devasting effect. The action is feverish. Highly recommended! The second encounter pits big Chinky, against trim, but murderous, Wilma in a bikini battle for survival. Both combatants are adept at illegal moves. Neither girl can keep contained in the skimpy bikini. A feast for lovers of violent female flesh! *#RGV-11*

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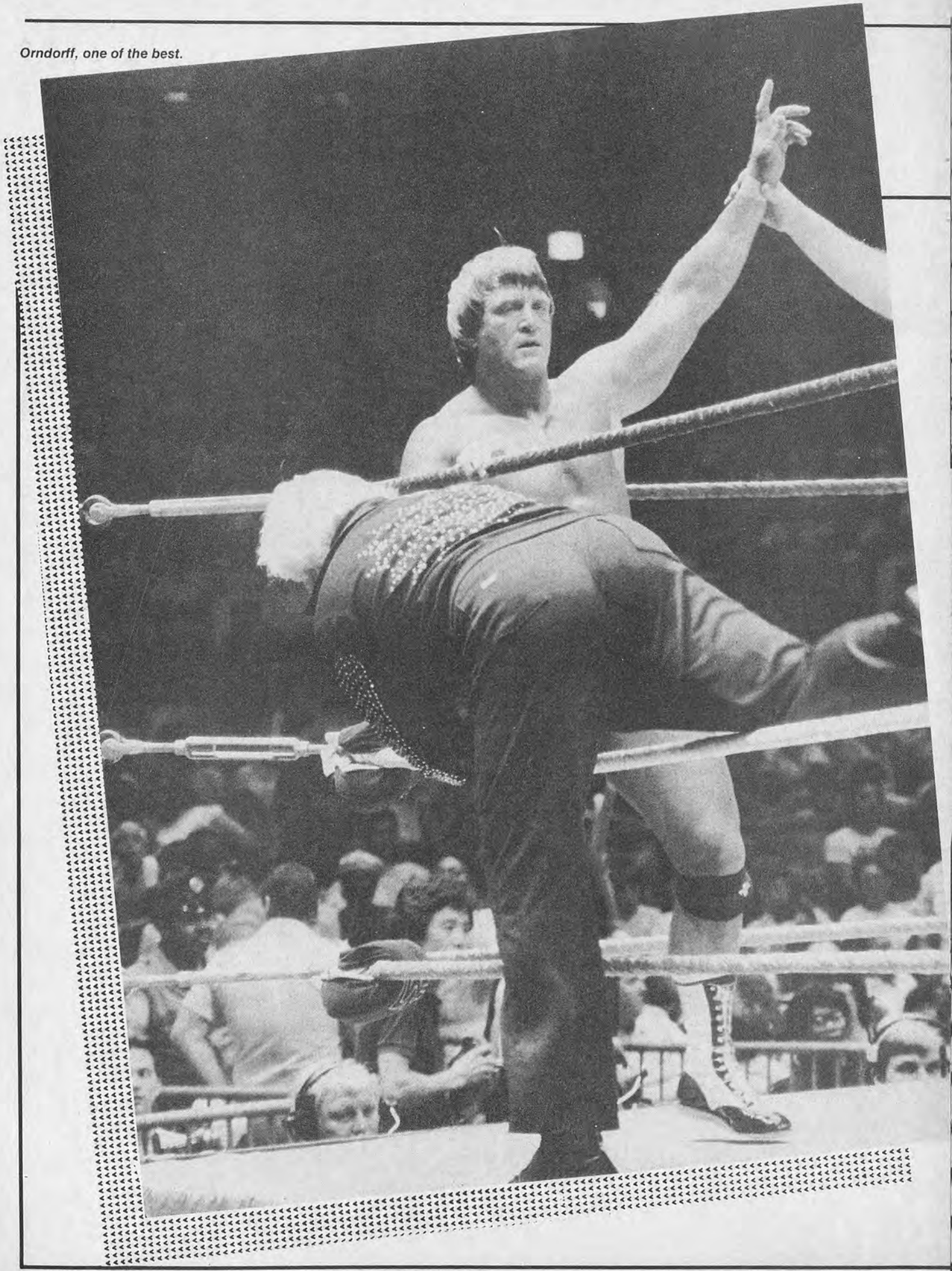


"PAUL 'MR. WONDERFUL' ORNDORFF"
"CAN HIS CAREER BE SAVED?"

By Tom Clutters

If you were a fan of Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff, you might have been ready to file a missing persons report.

Following his controversial loss to WWF champion Hulk Hogan in a steel cage match seen on "Saturday Night's Main Event," Orndorff suddenly dropped from sight. This man who as considered the No. 1 contender for Hogan's coveted title was no longer in the spotlight.

Your search would have continued for several months. The WWF announcers were silent about Orndorff's whereabouts. Seldom was his name mentioned. Was he injured? Did he retire? Had he left McMahon Land to move to another federation? Even his manager, Bobby "The Brain" Heenan failed to shed any light on Mr. Wonderful's status.

Well, now that Paul has returned to the WWF limelight (at least somewhat), several questions remain unanswered. When approached, Orndorff refuses to discuss the situation.

The few facts that are available do not complete the puzzle. First of all, it was revealed that Orndorff had suffered from a pinched nerve in his neck, causing severe pain and a lack of mobility in one of his arms. Secondly, it was discovered that he had been spending his ring time in the "outer limits" of the WWF promotional territory, mostly in smaller towns working against the likes of Lanny Poffo, Jerry Allen and Mario Mancini. Instead of New York, Los Angeles or Miami, Paul Orndorff was appearing in Des Moines, Tulsa and Gary, IN.

Another unexplained piece of the mystery was the absence of Heenan during his man's matches. After spending a great deal of money and time to get Orndorff away from the grip of Hulk Hogan, it now appeared that The Brain was content to let Paul go his own way.

When Orndorff suddenly reappeared as if nothing had happened, questions were asked, no one was able to answer. Heenan, during the absence, had assembled quite a stable of talent including Harley Race, Hercules Hernandez, The Islanders, King Kong Bundy, and Ravishing Rick Rude. Just where did "Mr. Wonderful" fit in? When asked about the situation during a TV interview, Heenan adroitly sidestepped the issue. "Where has Mr. Wonderful been? That's none of your business. He's here now, and that's all you have to worry about, pal."

Soon after Paul's TV appearance, he dropped out of the picture again. The mystery deepened, and the unanswered questions multiplied.

How could all this have happened?

Paul Orndorff has always had a certain star quality. From the time he first made a name in the business as one-half of the NWA World Tag Team Champions (with Jimmy Snuka), big things were expected from the man dubbed "The Brandon Bull' after his hometown in Florida. He made a big splash in the Georgia area in 1982, taking on the Junkyard Dog, who was then the fans' top choice. During his early days in Georgia, Paul was detested. He left for a short time to wrestle in Louisiana, and while there, he met Ernie Ladd, who convinced him to change his ways. Orndorff and Ladd were crowd favorites as they fought against Gen. Skandor Akbar and his Samoans.

The "new" Paul Orndorff returned to Georgia, and in July, defeated Mad Dog Buzz Sawyer to win the National Heavyweight title. His popularity grew as he teamed on many occasions with Tommy Rich and other popular stars. He defended his National title with pride and dignity, and was a world-ranked competitor.

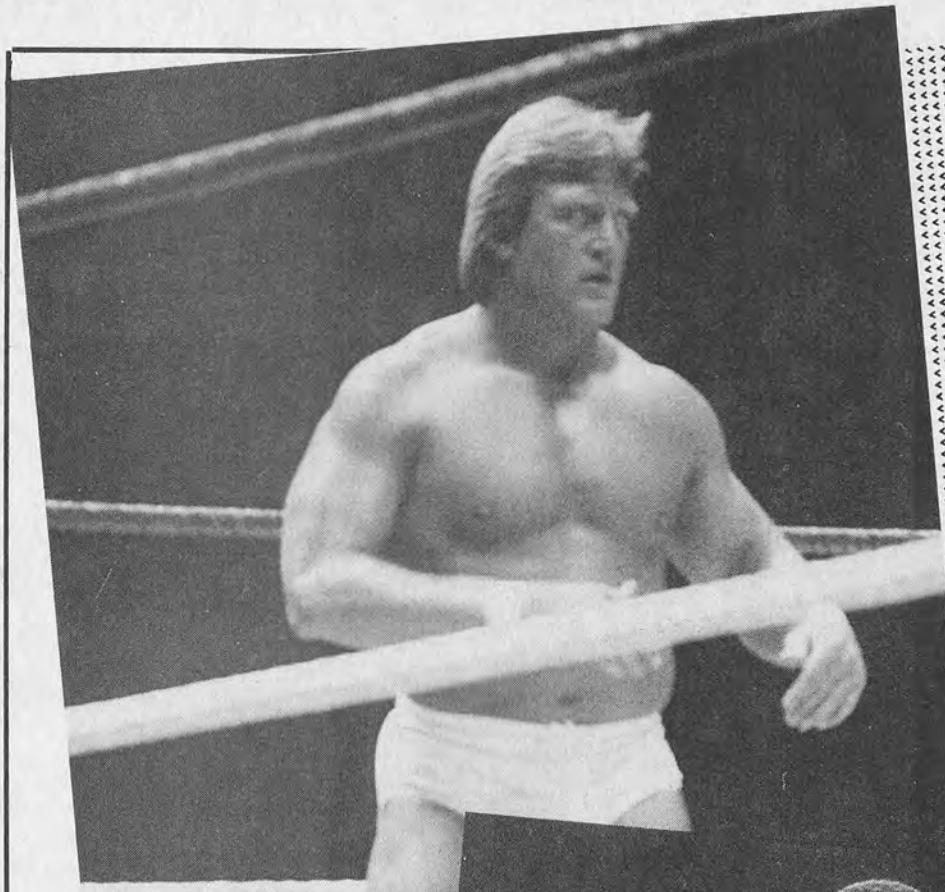
At the urging of Roddy Piper, Orndorff came to the WWF early in 1984. He now wanted to be called "Mr. Wonderful", and once again reverted to rule-breaking. The Piper-Orndorff tandem was a major force in WWF rings, and for several months, were considered title contenders.

It was during the first "WrestleMania" card on March 31, 1985, that things began to change for Paul Orndorff. He and Piper were matched against Hogan and Mr. T in the main event tag match. Things didn't go too well for the "bad guys", and Orndorff ended up losing the match after being knocked cold by Piper's bodyguard Bob Orton. Piper and Orton then turned their backs on their former comrade. "I guess I don't have any friends at all now," muttered Orndorff.

Eventually, Orndorff was signed by Heenan, but his career was in a holding pattern. His matches against Hogan were few and far between, and he was unable to gain a title.

Gradually, Orndorff and Hogan struck up a mild friendship. They didn't completely trust each other, but both men saw that their alliance could be beneficial. An incensed Bobby Heenan, fired by Orndorff, immediately placed a $25,000 bounty on Paul's head. No one was able to collect, although Mr. Wonderful was injured on more than one occasion. As time went on, Paul became second in popularity only to Hogan him-

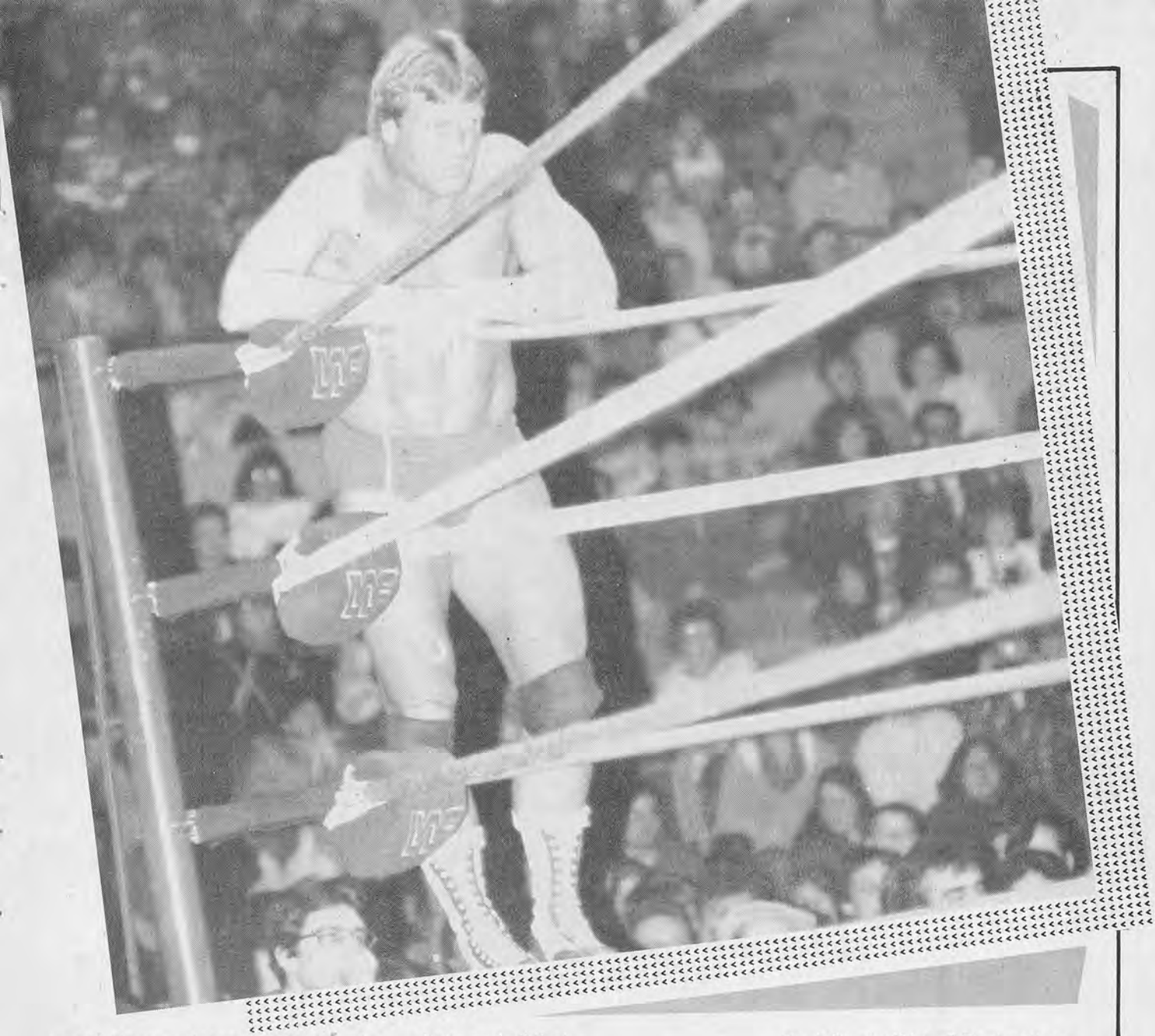
No love for this man.



Paul Orndorff, the 'Brandon Bull'.

The Junkyard Dog, battles 'Mr. Wonderful'.

Mr. Wonderful.



self. He was cheered every time he made an appearance, and his following, while maybe not as large as the Hulkster's, was just as loyal.

Eventually, however, his fans began to notice subtle changes in their hero. He became somewhat distant from everyone, especially Hogan. He had something on his mind.

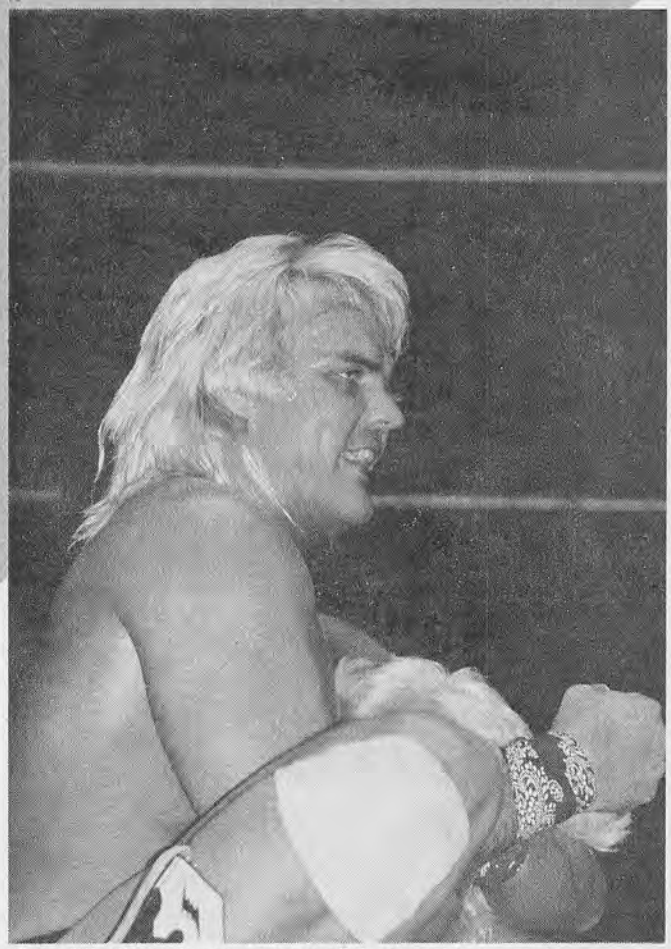
It all came to a head in July of 1986, when, in front of a world-wide television audience, Orndorff attacked and injured Hogan. Everyone was in shock as he calmly climbed out of the ring after the incident, and promptly announced that he was re-signing Heenan as his manager. Apparently, the Brain had been working on this plan for some time, after discovering that no one could put Paul out of action. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em, and all that.

In what may well have been his "last gasp" in the WWF, Orndorff mounted another assault on Hogan's title. The war raged clear across the country. The Orndorff-Hogan feud reached its peak in Toronto in August, when the two highlighted a WWF card in front of over 65,000 fans in Exhibition Stadium, the largest crowd ever to witness a wrestling event (at that time). The final battle was staged, on television,when Hulk defended his belt against Orndorff in a steel cage. At the end, both men attempted to climb down from the cage, with Hogan reaching the floor less than a split second before Mr. Wonderful. Despite the protests of Orndorff and Heenan, Hogan retained his title.

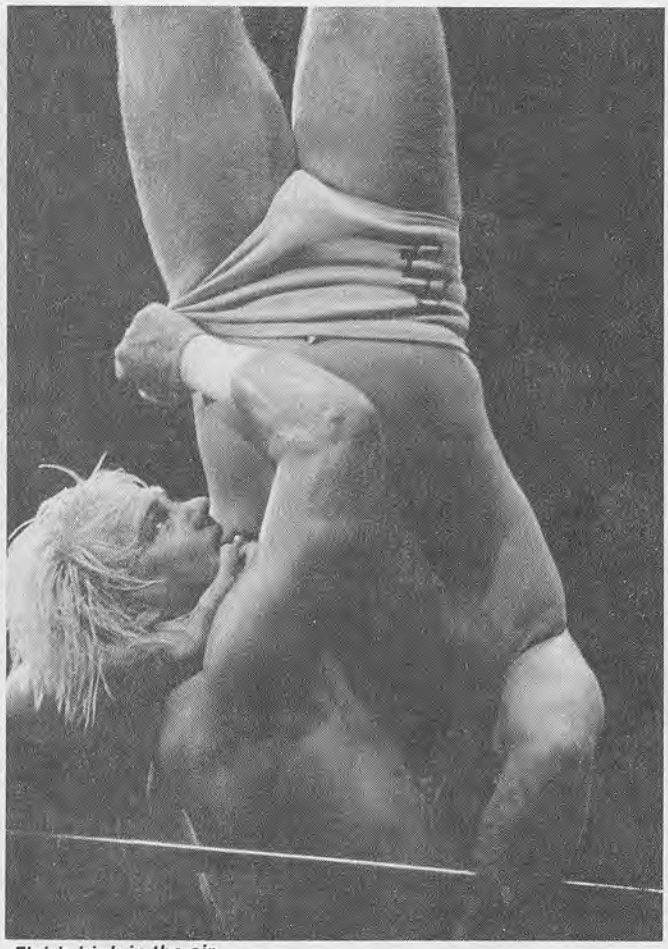
After all this, now where does Paul Orndorff turn? Past actions have proven that he can't be trusted. He has few friends left in the WWF, and his career is on the downslide. Heenan doesn't seem to care about what happens since he has more than enough fire-power in his "family" without Orndorff. As for the injury, some reports say that one of his arms is beginning to shrink due to the nerve damage. It is widely thought that Heenan brought Paul back into the spotlight only to try to quell all of the rumors.

One fact remains: Paul Orndorff may be back, but he certainly isn't better. This man has serious career problems, and those who still stand by him hope that he hasn't burned too many bridges behind him.

BARRY WINDHAM



Barry Windham, is one man Ric Flair should beware of.



Flair's high in the air.

Barry Windham sat quietly on a folding chair in the dressing room. His long blond hair looked as if he had just come from the shower, but in reality, Barry hadn't made it that far yet. After a time, he slowly looked up, a slight smile showing on his tired face. "I had him this time. I really had him. I know that man can be beaten, but it just seems like every time, something happens," said the young Texan.

In this particular instance, Windham had just battled NWA champion Ric Flair to a 60-minute time limit draw. The match had ended just as Windham had surprised Flair with a Sunset Flip from outside the ropes. Before referee Teddy Long could toll the three count, the time limit had expired. Just a couple more seconds, and Windham would have been wearing the cherished belt.

After gathering his thoughts for a minute, Barry continued. "You know, I probably shouldn't be so upset, but it's hard. It really is. Seems like I've had Flair beaten a dozen times, but either one of the other Horsemen or the timekeeper gets in the way," he said with a chuckle. Actually this was the third time in recent memory that the time limit had run out on Barry. "Seems like the millionth time," sighed Windham.

The following night, Barry had just successfully defended his Western States Heritage title against Ivan Koloff, and was now watching from the dressing room door as Flair battled Nikita Koloff in the ring. The match ended after 37 minutes when Nikita accidentally propelled the champion over the top rope, and was disqualified. Again, the faint smile crossed Barry Windham's face as he returned to his cubicle in the dressing room. "It really amazes me

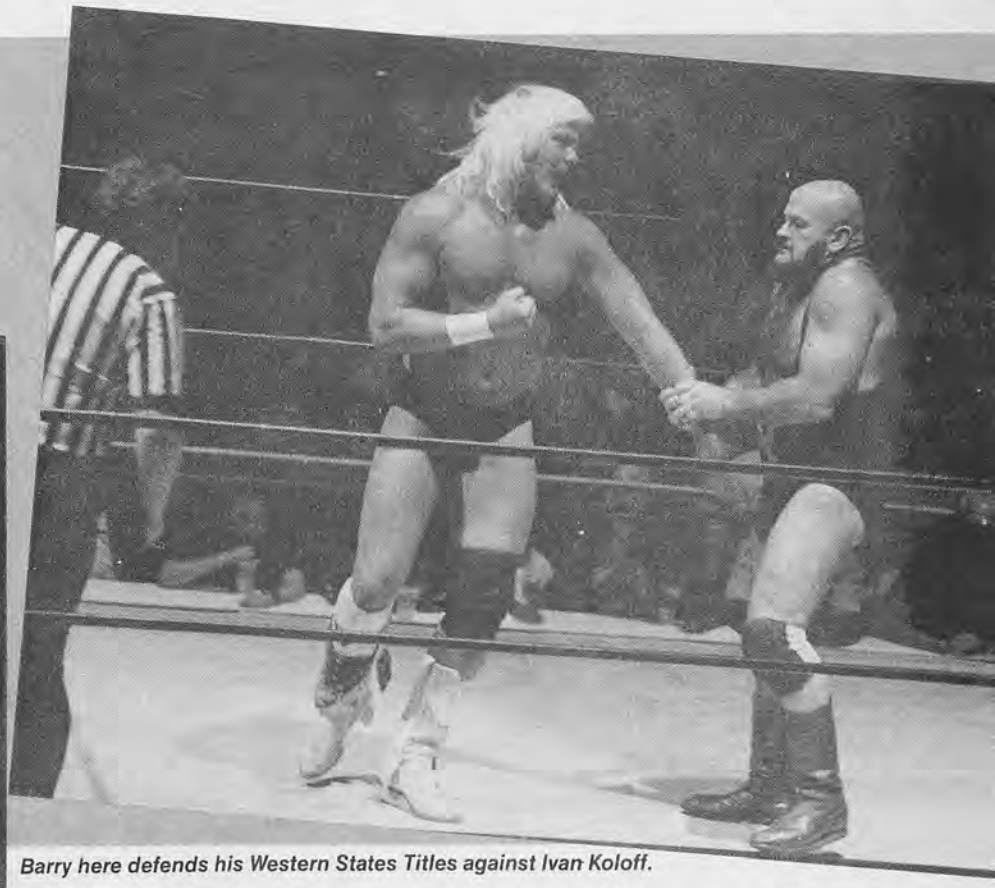
"DESTINED TO WEAR THE N.W.A. STRAP."

By Tom Clutters,

photos by Al Fanale

sometimes," Windham began, just as Koloff kicked open the door, and stomped in, muttering to himself. The "Russian Nightmare" picked up a garbage can and smashed it against a wall in frustration. "No way. No way." he screamed. "Flair jumped over ropes. I not throw him. He jump over ropes to keep

In one of many classic battles, Barry battles Slick Ric.



Barry here defends his Western States Titles against Ivan Koloff.

title." With that, Nikita stormed off.

"I know just how Nikita feels," Barry continued. "Flair's a master. That's why he's kept that belt." Returning to his earlier thought, Windham expounded on his feelings. "What I was going to say, it just amazes me how things have worked out to this point. You've got Flair and the Horsemen. Every time he gets in a jam, they bail him out, or he runs. Not just against me, but everyone, including Nikita, Ronnie (Garvin), the Road Warriors, everyone. Maybe I'm dreaming, but it just seems that someone is eventually destined to take that title. Right now, I think I'm at my peak. I don't believe I'll get much better. I'm getting my share of shots at Flair, and no one else has beat him. Maybe I'm in the right place at the right time." Pausing to look away for a brief moment, Barry then nodded his head and, with the widest smile yet, concluded, "Yeah, maybe it IS my destiny to beat Rick Flair."

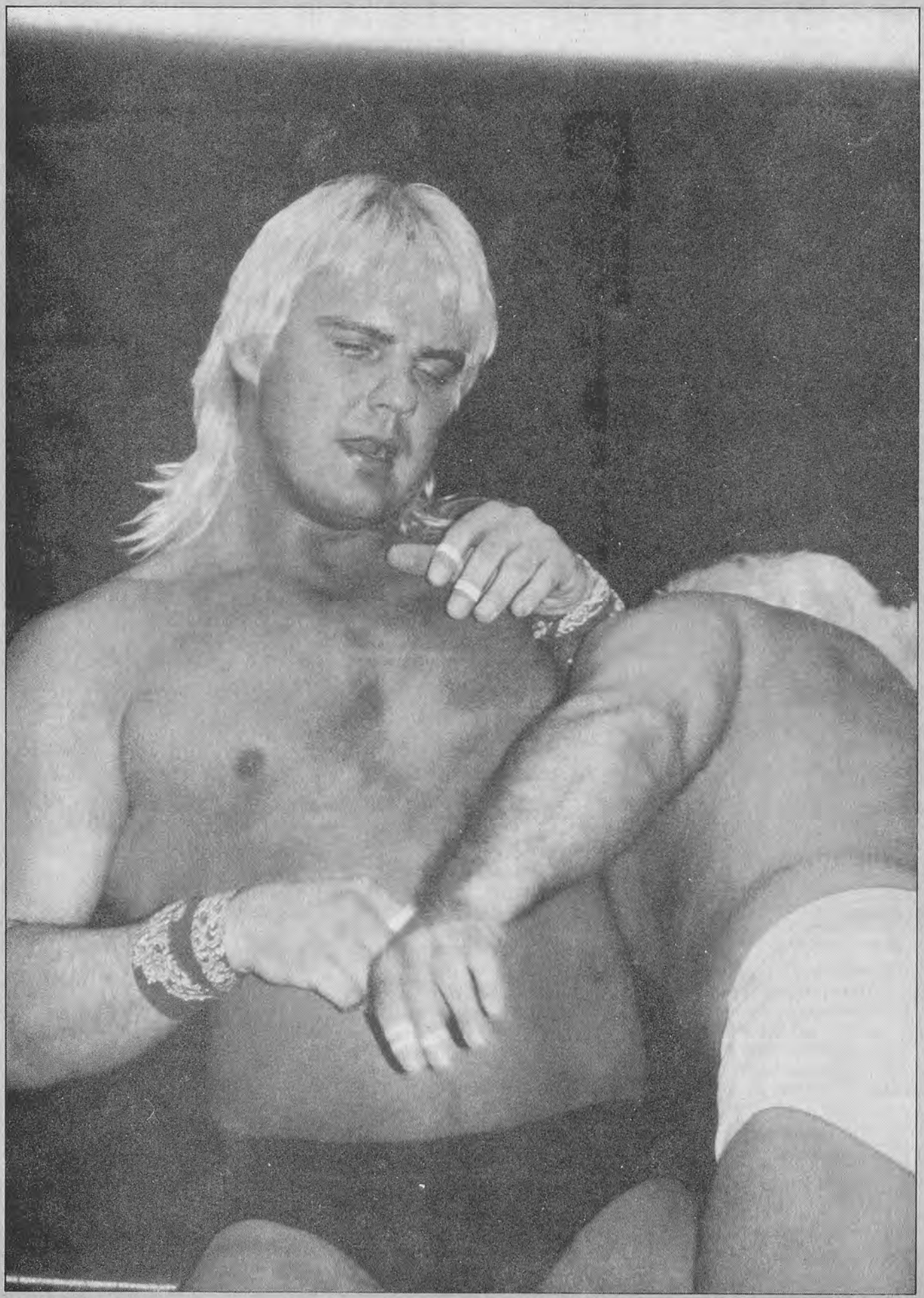
* * * * * *

Despite his apparent hunger for the NWA world title, championships have never been strangers to Barry Windham. As the son of Blackjack Mulligan, he was forced to try harder. "My father never put any pressure on me. He gave me advice, but it was up to me to get it done. I was determined to sink or swim on my own," says the native of Sweetwater, TX.

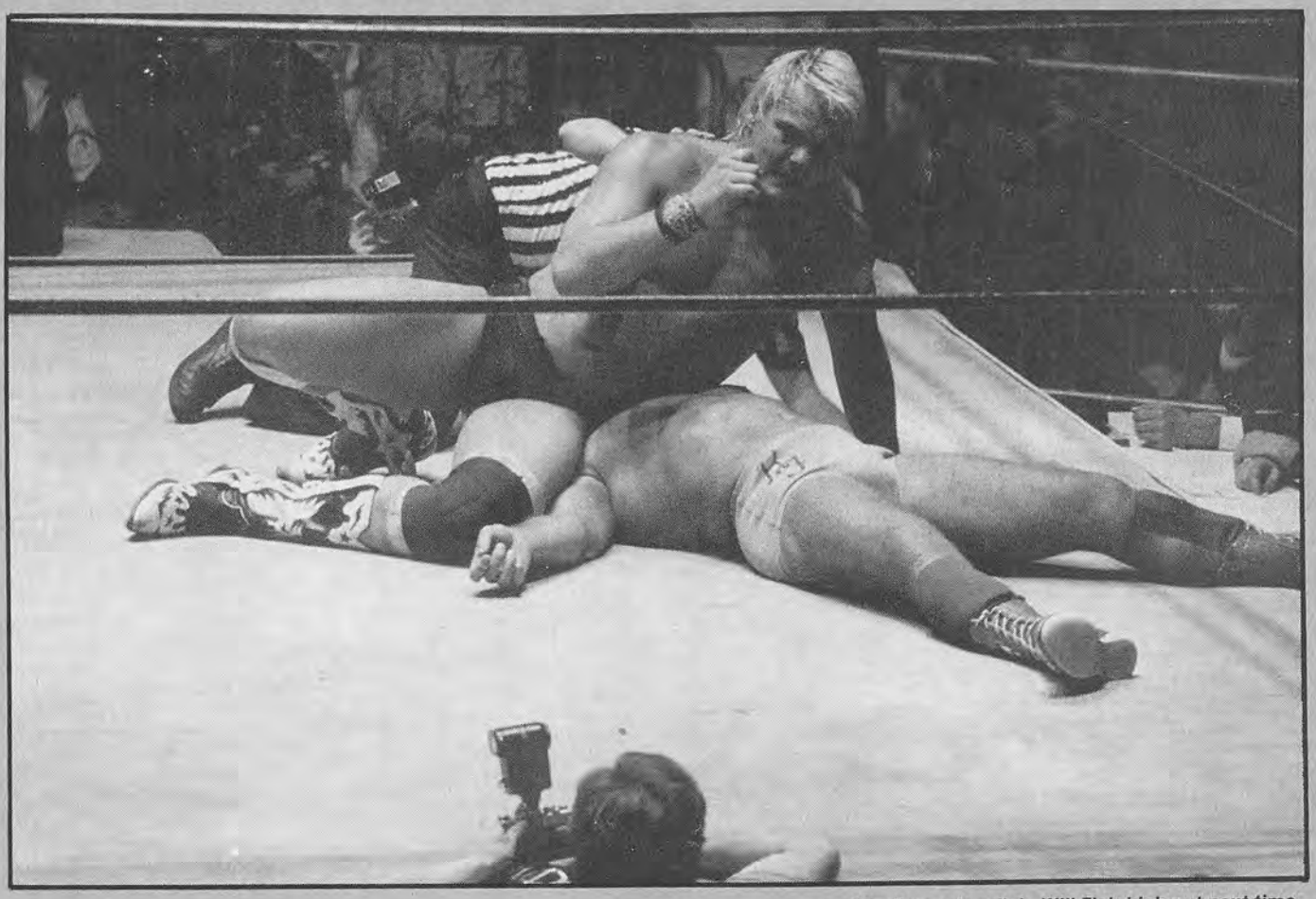
Barry's first taste of being a champion came when he won a tournament to determine the Southern Heavyweight kingpin, defeating Greg Valentine in the tourney final. After journeying into Florida, he held the singles title on two separate occasions. At about this time, Windham began to team on a regular basis with Mike Rotundo, and the two were an immediate success, twice winning the Florida version of the United States tag titles.

Windham and Rotundo then surprised everyone by moving into the World Wrestling Federation where, under the guidance of Lou Albano, they defeated Adrian Adonis and Dick Murdoch for the WWF tag team belts. They lost the titles to The Iron Sheik and Nikolai during WrestleMania, but in July, "The American Express" were once again champions. Finally, after they dropped the belts to Valentine and Brutus Beefcake, Windham and Rotundo went their separate ways, with Barry heading back to Florida to team with his father and younger brother Kendall.

While in Florida again, Barry was involved in a fierce feud with Lex Luger for several months. After they settled their differences, they became a top-flight tag team. While wrestling and traveling together, Windham and Luger



Barry will someday wear the strap.



Windham pins Flair. Will Flair kick out next time.

mapped out some strategy designed to defeat Ric Flair. "We worked out some plans that we were pretty sure of," said Windham. "We both had wrestled Flair when he came to Florida, but we couldn't beat him. We finally got our heads together to put some tactics down."

Barry soon decided to move into Jim Crockett territory, and Luger followed shortly thereafter. However, Windham got the surprise of his life when Lex arrived. He announced publicly that he wanted to join the infamous Four Horsemen. "I couldn't believe what I was hearing," admitted Barry. "After all the planning and talking we had done about how one of us would defeat Flair, then Lex comes in and wants to throw it all away just to be one of the Horsemen. He had to realize that if he joined them, he'd never get a shot at Flair, but it just didn't seem to matter to him. I tried to talk some sense to him, but it was no use."

Obviously, Luger would be a serious threat to Ric Flair: suspicions are that Flair, realizing what might happen, used his influence to force J.J.Dillon to make Lex an offer that was "too good to pass up," thus eliminating one more threat to the Nature Boy. However, one might argue that the departure of Lex Luger from the title picture might have been just one more chapter in Barry Windham's "destiny."

* * * * * *

One man who might be a roadblock in Windham's path to the NWA title could be his good friend and ally Ronnie Garvin. After Garvin and Windham combined their talents to win the U.S. tag team belts, they became very close. When Ronnie was nearly blinded by Jim Cornette and the Midnight Express, Barry joined Ronnie's brother Jimmy, and took up the battle. Over the summer months, Windham spent much of his ring time with both Ronnie and Jimmy as partners, while continuing his quest for Flair. Following the "Dream Date" affair between Jimmy's valet Precious and Flair, Ronnie became a man possessed: possessed with beating "Slick Ric."

Not outwardly upset at being thrust into the background while Garvin and Flair fought it out, Barry was content to bide his time and wait a little longer. "Who knows, Ronnie might win the title, and I'm behind him 100 percent," said Barry. "But nobody knows what will happen farther down the road."

Meanwhile, Barry continued to defend his Western States title on a regular basis, and to work in tag matches with Jimmy Garvin, Nikita Koloff, and younger brother Kendall.

* * * * * *

In the event that he might NOT become the NWA World Heavyweight Champion, what then for Barry Windham?

"It's kinda hard to say right now," he admitted. 'I'd probably do just about what I'm doing. You know, I'm as happy right now as I've ever been, with or without the world title. There's a lot of other titles out there to be had, and I've got a lot of good partners to choose from. But," he added with a wink, "I'm not ready to give up yet. It might still be my destiny to be world champion."

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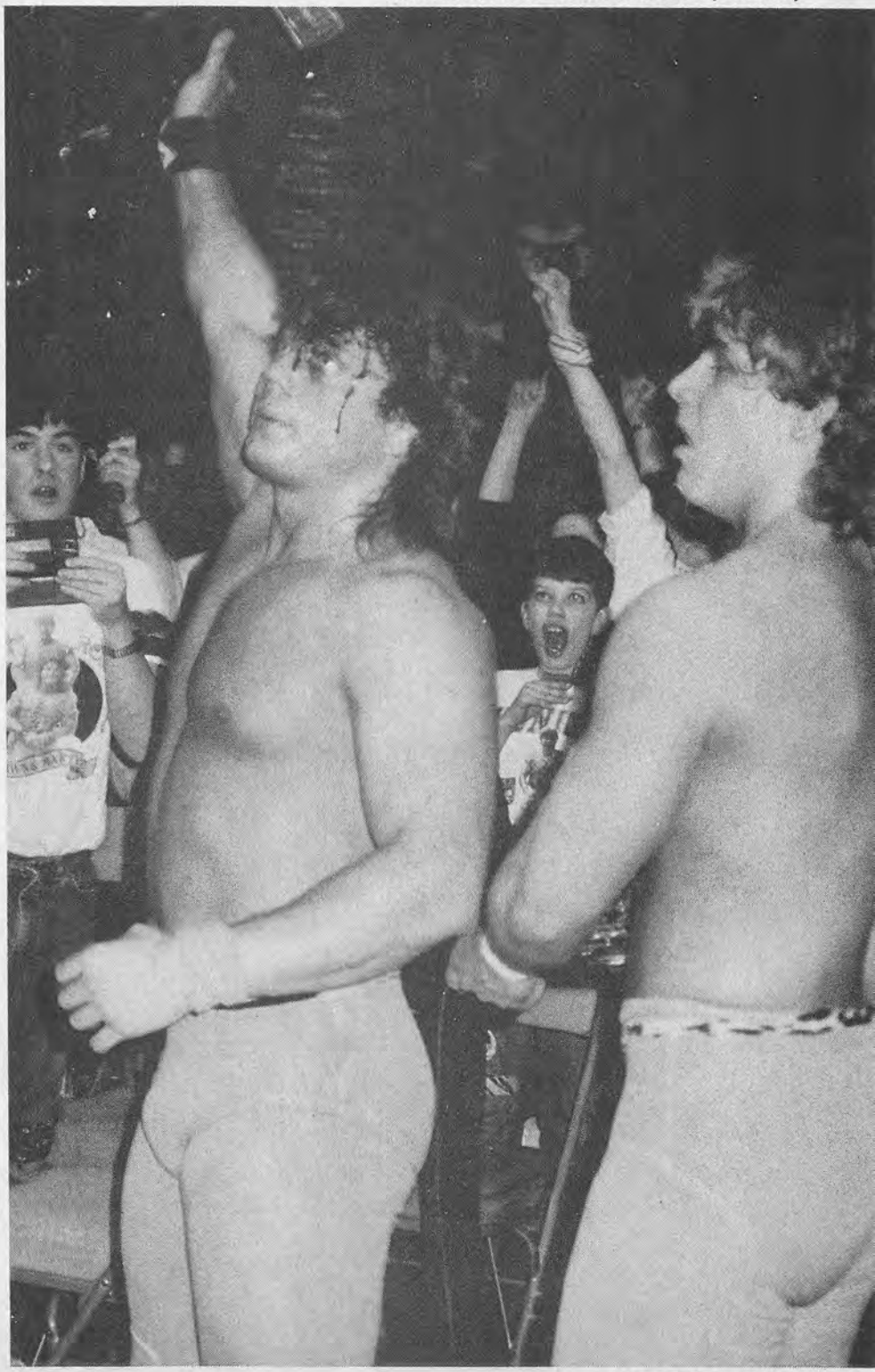
BEWARE OF CHEAP IMITATIONS

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MIDNIGHT ROCKERS?

By Don Laible

Photos by Michael C. Nelson

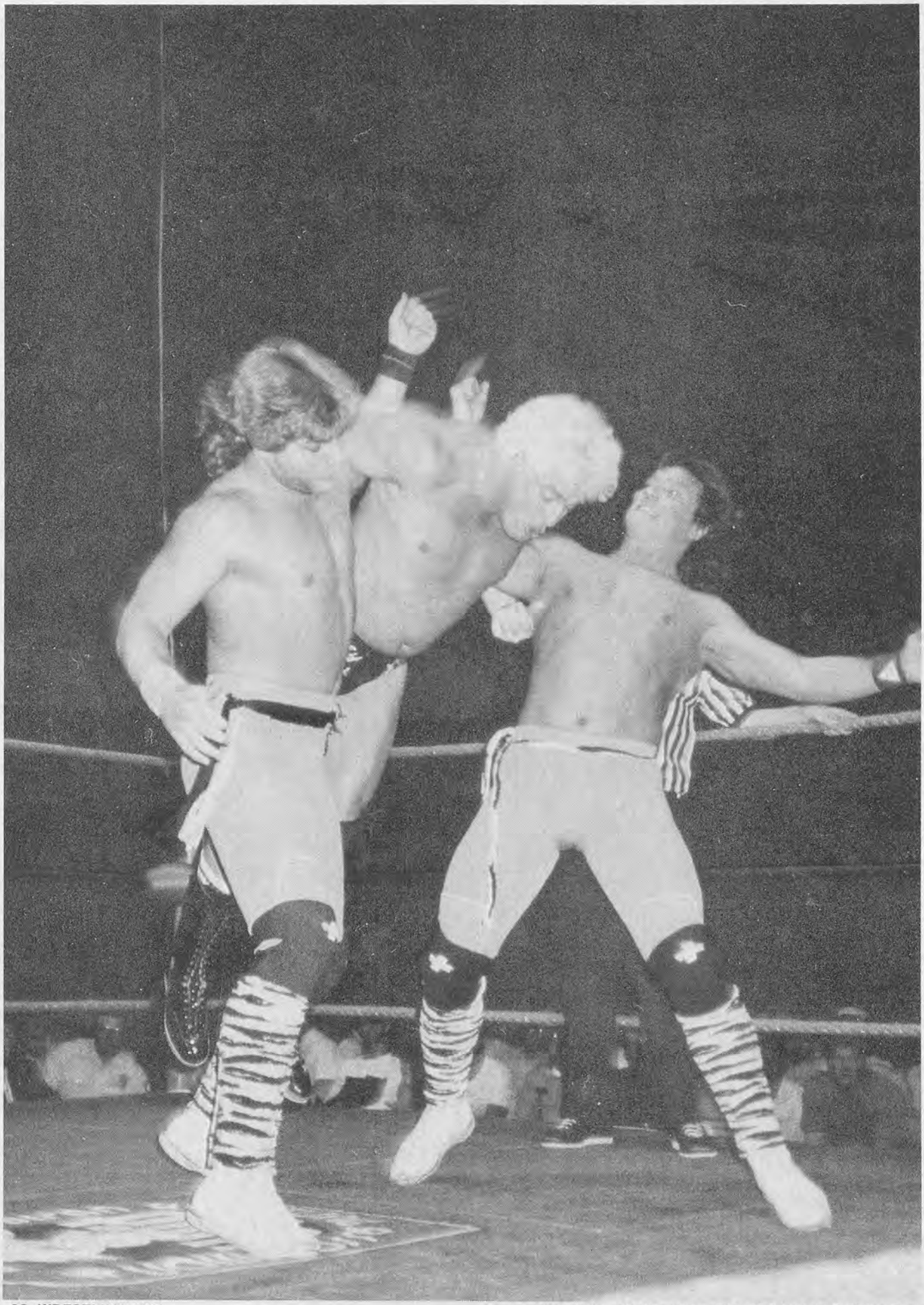
The Rockers-Sean Michaels and Marty Jannetty



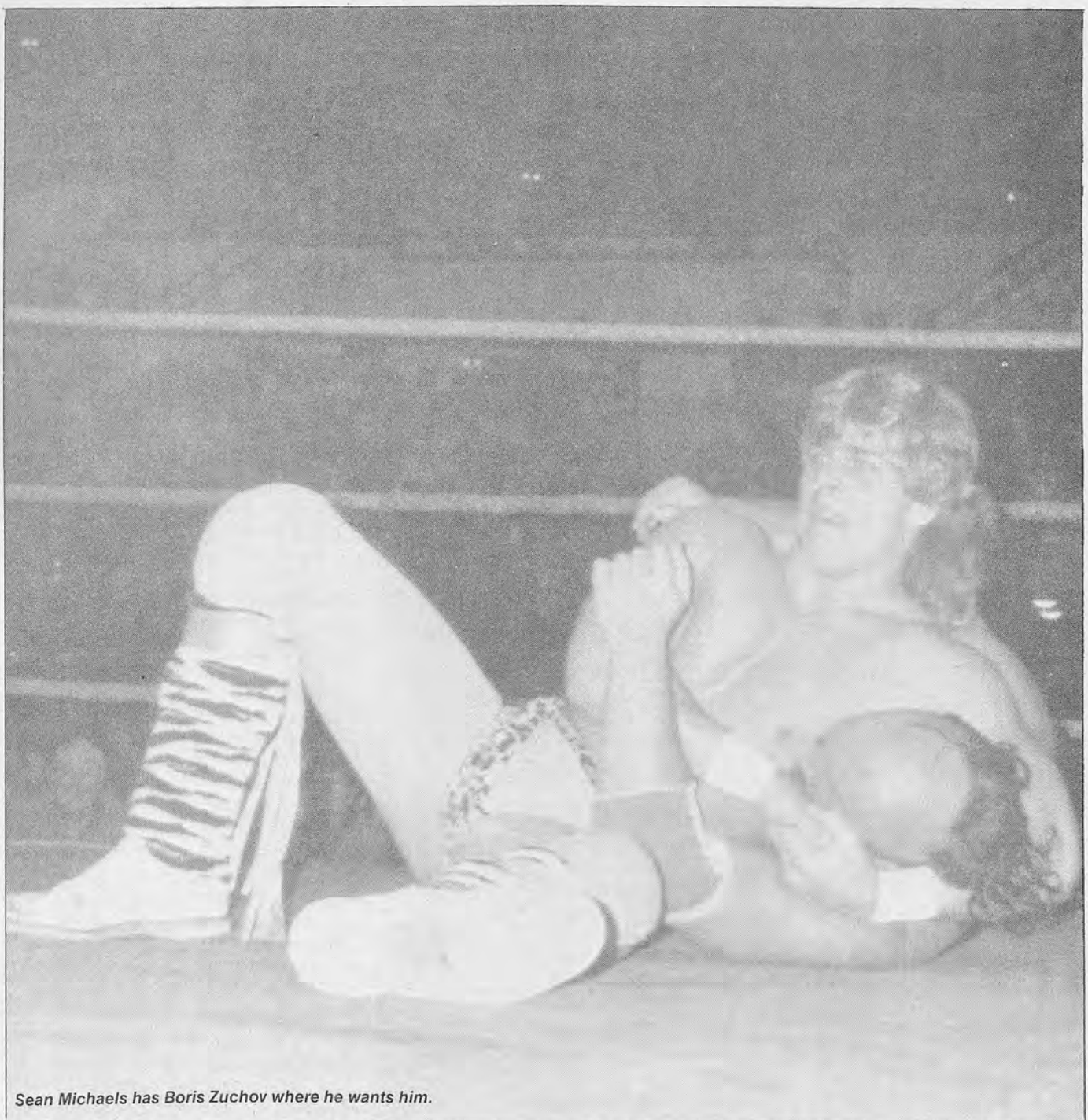
Like an oasis in the desert, the Midnight Rockers. Sean Michaels and Marty Jannetty continue to be an oddity in the world of professional wrestling. Not in years, perhaps as far back as Dr. Jerry and Eddie Graham in the late 1950's, has a team been tabbed to reach such heights of success as the Midnight Rockers. So why have they virtually disappeared off of the wrestling map? What happened to all the goals the duo had planned to achieve and the great expectations their faithful followers had hopes for? Without exception, Michaels and Jannetty are wrestling's number one question mark today.

Although the Rockers have been teaming for almost three years, they are both relatively rookies to the grappling game. Although they may seem alike, Sean and Marty come from different backgrounds. As the saying goes, opposites attract. Sean is from Texas and learned much of his wrestling skills from the great Jose Lothario. Marty, on the other hand, is from the Central States region and gained most of his ring knowledge from Bob Brown and Bob Geigel.

When the two youngsters met and teamed with one another in the American Wrestling Association for Promoter Verne Gagne, as the fans quickly acknowledged a special chemistry clicked between them. Their ring attire and movements have been compared by many with the Rock and Roll Express. However, Sean and Marty (who used the last name of Oates when he first turned pro) will be the first to admit that they are their own persona. At a time when 'Playboy' Buddy Rose and 'Pretty Boy'



Sean and Marty have been compared to the Rock 'n Roll Express.



Sean Michaels has Boris Zuchov where he wants him.

Doug Somers were on top in the AWA holding the tag team title, Sean and Marty were riding high with scores of mat victories. When a contract was submitted by Sherri Martel, then the manager of Rose and Somers, the Rockers didn't hesitate to sign on the dotted line.

At an unheard of time in their careers, the youngsters pulled off what seemingly was the impossible. The AWA tag team belts had proud new owners. The Rockers were on top of their profession. After that accomplishment, it has been somewhat downhill for the mat darlings. By no means have their fans (mainly teenage females) disowned or disapproved of their actions. As a matter of fact their place in the fan's hearts continues to thrive. Professionally speaking, in comparison to the pseudo disappearance of Sgt Slaughter from wrestling, Michaels and Jannetty see limited ring action these days.

How ironic. Two young, well-rounded athletes in the peak of physical condition are not as active as most, especially themselves, as they would like them to be. Although there has been no facts to back up allegations of on-the-road mischief immaturity winning out with them at times, these reports have to be given careful scrutinization. After a 'cup of coffee' stint with Vince McMahon's World Wrestling Federation, the Rockers have been 'inbetween' opportunities. Why? For some unforseen reason known only to the innermost promotional hierarchy in wrestling, and to the Rockers, the former AWA 'golden boys' are not entertaining fans in large arenas as they are accustomed to. No doubt the duo misses the competition but their public equally awaits the word on when their heroes will be back full time.

"BRET HART"

"W.W.F.'S MOST UNDERRATED WRESTLER."

By Tom Clutters/Photos by DeSpirito

Bret Hart, 'Mr. Cool'!

In a world where the word "superstar" is too often used to describe products that are mediocre at best, the word "underrated" is becoming just as widely-abused. Many times, especially in wrestling, fans and media types alike will state that their favorites aren't getting the attention they deserve; that they're being ignored; that they're "underrated."

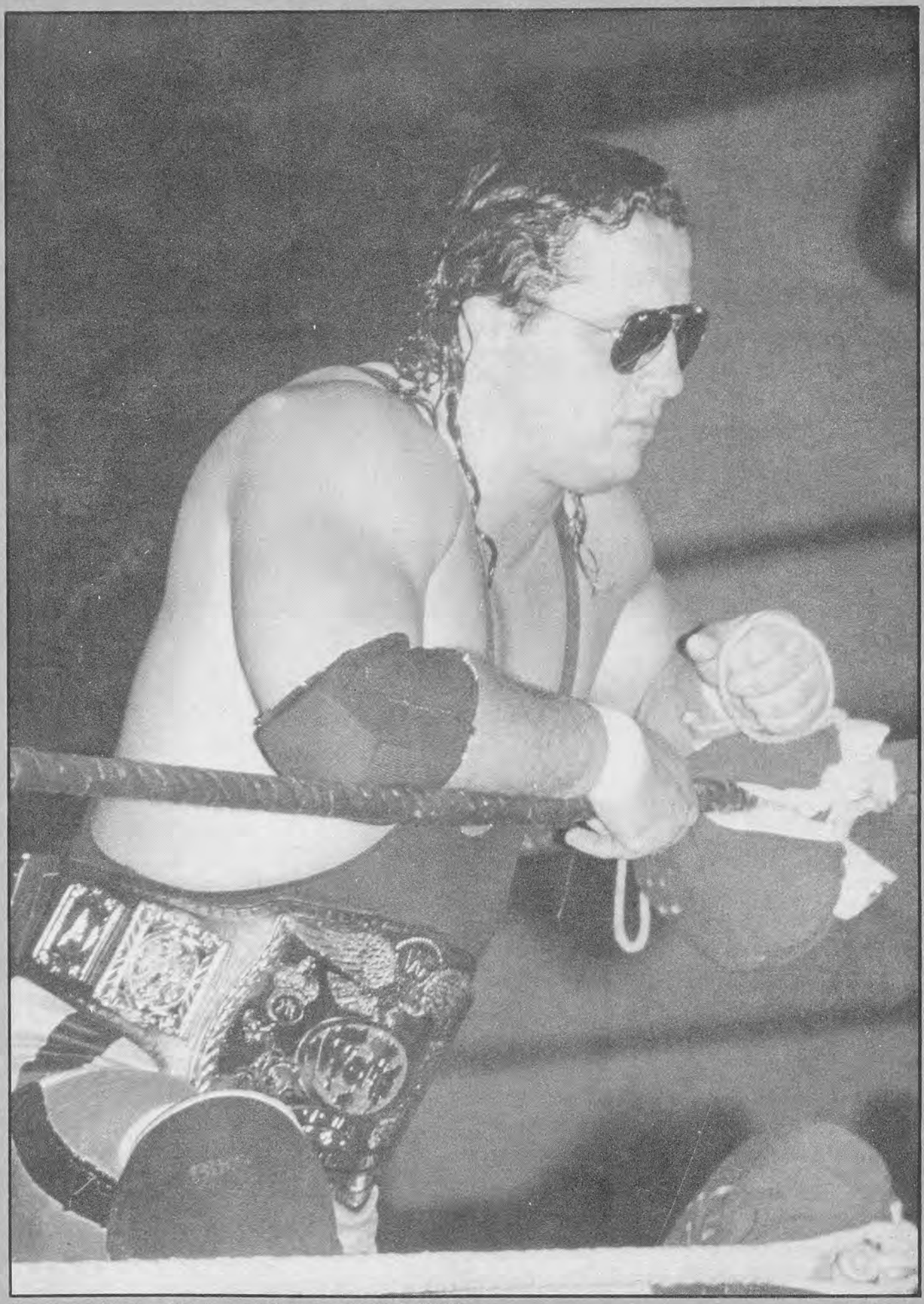
However, if we must continue to use such terminology, at least let's use it where it really needs to be used. If anyone who earns his living inside a wrestling ring deserves to be termed "underrated," then Canadian Bret "Hitman" Hart is your man.

Despite the fact that he has spent nearly ten years on the mats of the world, Bret Hart was largely unknown to most wrestling fans until a couple of years ago. As the son of ex-wrestler and Calgary promoter Stu Hart, Bret was brought up in a wrestling environment. His early years in the sport were spent mostly around his home area, with occasional trips to Japan and a few other locations far away. Over that time, Hart managed to become one of the most popular wrestlers in the land of the rising sun, and was in great demand whenever he appeared.

Upon leaving Canada, Bret gained some notice when he invaded the Mid-South area in 1983. Following that, he moved to the NWA, but was little used, and much of his time was spent on undercards. "To be honest, I feel like I just wasted a lot of my life in those other federations," said the Hitman. "I guess I just wasn't flashy enough. I don't think that there was anyone who could outwrestle me, but it just seemed as if I was there, and that was about it."

In fact, Bret's only "claim to fame" while in the NWA was that he was Nikita Koloff's first professional opponent. The two met on June 6, 1984, with Koloff winning, and shortly thereafter, Bret returned home.

It was at this point that Hart moved on into the World Wrestling federation. His father had promoted some shows for the WWF in Canada, and Bret decided to give it a try. He began teaming up with Jim Neidhart, whom he had met some years earlier. Neidhart became "family" when he married Bret's sister, and the two felt they could form a respectable tag team.



Bret Hart could very well be the most talented wrestler in the W.W.F.

Bret Hart, a member of the famous Hart family.

"I had been going nowhere, and Jimmy was in about the same situation," Hart recalls. "So we decided to team up, give it our best shot, and see what would happen."

What happened was that the team was noticed by Jimmy "Mouth of the South" Hart, and he approached them with an offer. "Let me be your manager," Jimmy told them. "And I'll take you right to the top."

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. The Hart Foundation was formed, and immediately began to cut a wide path of destruction through the WWF. No longer the easy-going, handshaking "nice guy," Bret Hart was now dubbed "The Hitman," and he and "The Anvil" quickly became favorite targets of debris-throwing ringsiders. According to one insider, it was Jimmy Hart's influence that prompted the change in Bret Hart. "Jimmy turned Bret into an unfeeling, cold-blooded wrestling machine," said the insider. "Basically, Neidhart had been that way all along, but Jimmy put the 'killer instinct' in Bret."

Surprisingly, Jimmy Hart refuses to take total credit for the transformation. "Listen, I didn't have to do much of anything to Bret Hart. He's always been a fine technical wrestler, and I simply pointed out to both of them that since their careers hadn't went anywhere to this point, maybe it was time for a change," said the Mouth.

As time wore on, the Foundation rolled on. The combination of Bret's speed, Neidhart's power, and Jimmy's cunning proved to be a potent one. Their favorite finishing maneuver, the "Flying Clothesline," devastated many a foe. Simply explained, Neidhart would hold the hapless victim in a bearhug, while Hart dashed across the ring, delivering a full-speed lariat to the neck. It was simple, yet effective, and forced the WWF champions, the British Bulldogs, to eventually agree to a series of matches.

Jimmy Hart didn't plan to make any hurried mistakes. He signed his men to several non-title matchups with the Bulldogs, allowing his men to get a "feel" for the champions. The Foundation was victorious on more than one occasion, although Jimmy Hart's interference was just about always a factor.

Two important factors led up to the fateful night of January 26, 1987. First of all, Tommy "Dynamite Kid" Billington of the Bulldogs was far from his physical peak, having to contend with a serious back injury that would eventually require surgery; secondly, controversial referee Danny Davis "just happened" to be assigned for the title match between the Foundation and the Bulldogs. A later turn of events made Davis' assignment to the match seem like more than mere "coincidence."

The place was Tampa, FL. The long-awaited title match was underway. The Foundation quickly took advantage of Billington's back, and sent him flying out of the ring. Davis, choosing to ignore what was going on inside the ring, followed the Kid out, and yelled at him for several minutes to "get back in the ring, and wrestle like a champion." Meanwhile, the Hitman and the Anvil were doing a number on Davey Boy Smith inside the ropes. After Hart delivered the "Foundation Finisher" on Smith, Davis suddenly rolled back into the ring, and delivered a fast three count, giving the match and the titles to the Hart Foundation.

Not long after the match, WWF President Jack Tunney revoked

Davis' officials license for life. Jimmy Hart immediately announced that he had signed a contract to manage Danny's new career as a wrestler, leading to speculation that Davis had been part of a "conspiracy" from the outset. "Man, there wasn't any underhanded tricks," Jimmy claimed. "We won the belts fair and square, and after Tunney unjustly banned Danny Davis as a referee, I signed to manage him as a wrestler. That's all there is to it."

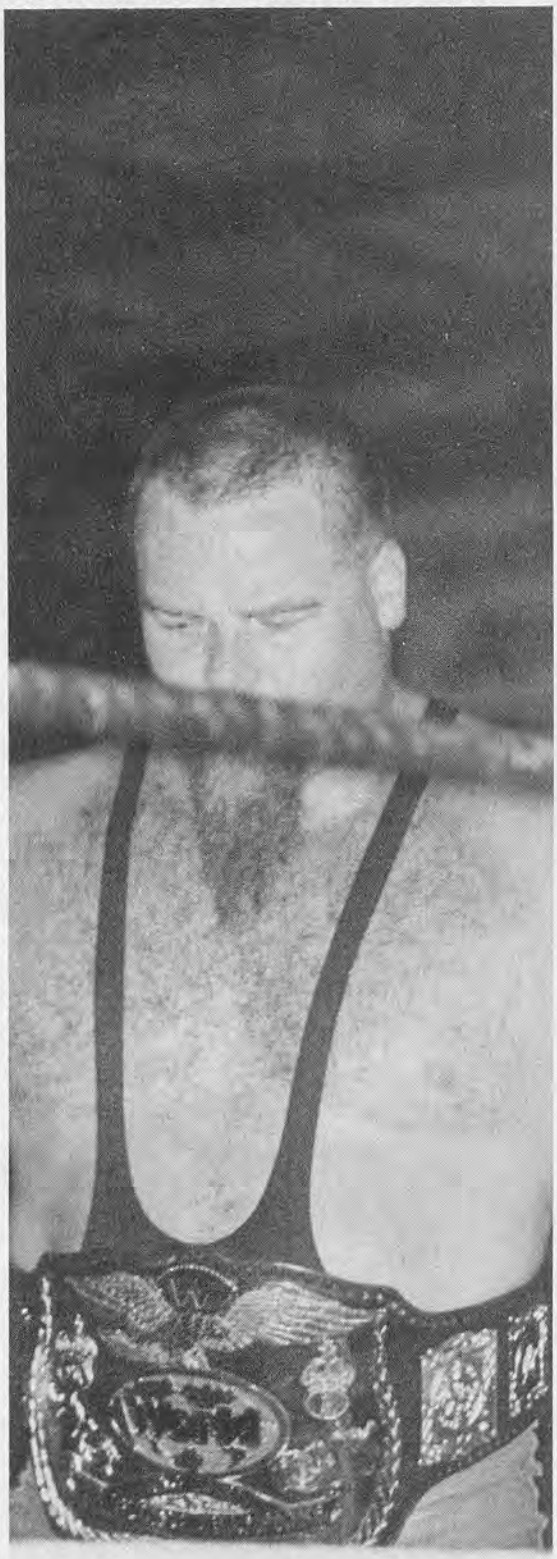
In any event, WWF officials refused to overturn the decision, and Bret Hart had finally reached the top of the mountain. Despite their obvious talent as a team, and their long list of successful title defenses since becoming champions, did the Foundation feel like their victory was tainted? "Not in the least," snapped Bret. "Look, I spent a lot of years working my rear off for nothing, man. I followed the rules, I tried to get the fans to like me, and where did it get me? Nowhere. Now, we're the world tag team champions, and nothing that you, Jack Tunney, or anyone else can say, can change it."

Having held onto the titles to this point, the Hart Foundation faces all sorts of new challenges. Probably their stiffest competition would have come from the Can-Am Connection of Rick Martel and Tom Zenk, but Zenk suddenly quit the team in mid-summer. Nevertheless, the list of contenders is long, and could include, by the time you read this, in Demolition, the Rougeaus, Martel & Tito Santana, and maybe even the "Dream Team" of Dino Bravo & Greg Valentine.

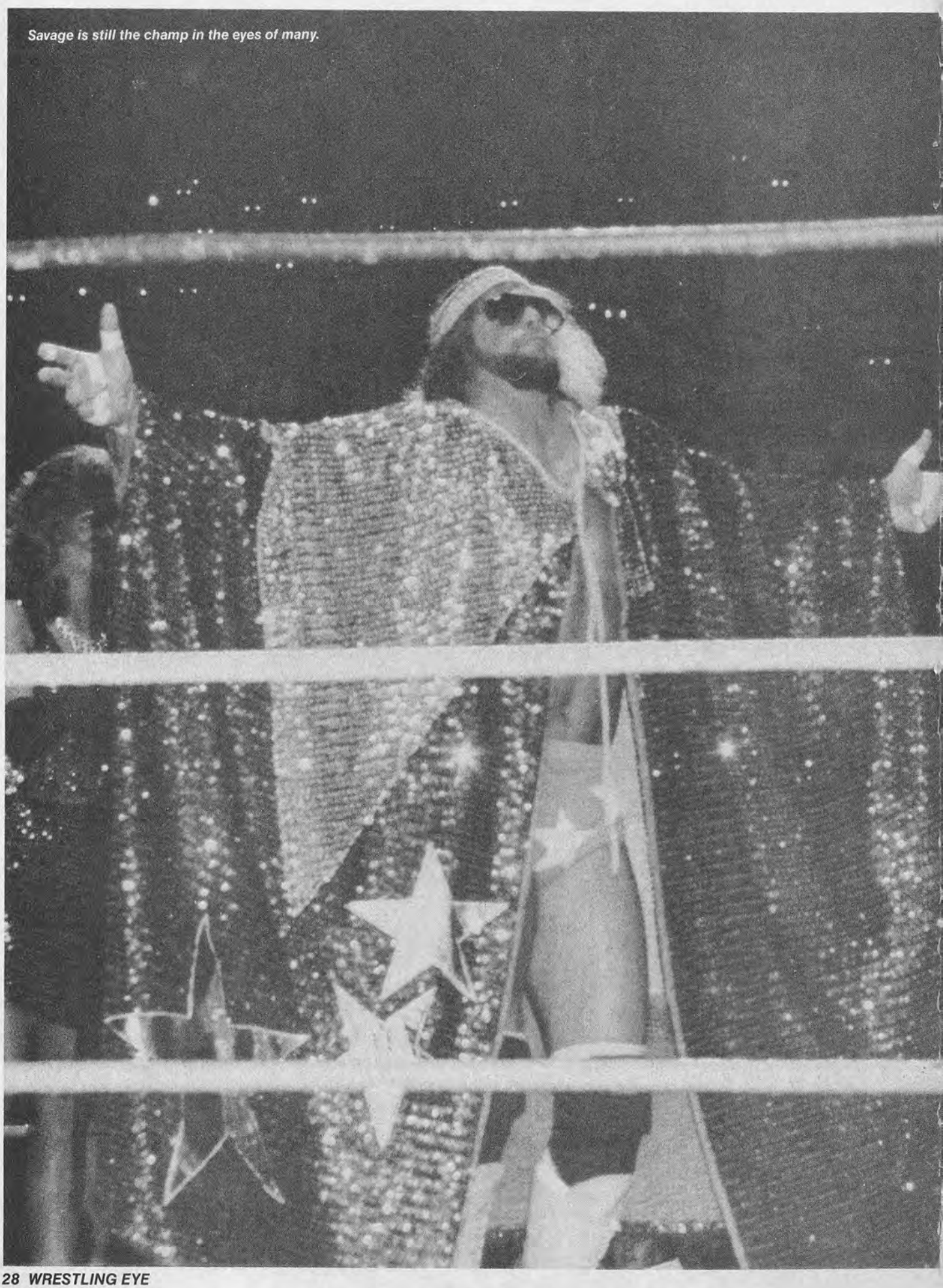
"It doesn't matter who they put us in against. When you hold a championship, you have to meet all of them, and that's just what we'll do," stated Bret. "Jimmy will make sure that we don't get shafted, and me and the Anvil can take care of the rest. We've worked long and hard to get where we are. We're recognized as the best, and we like it that way."

Indeed, recognition has finally come Bret Hart's way, and he doesn't appear to care how it arrived. No longer can he be referred to as "underrated Bret Hart."

Bret Hart and Jim Neidhart, the Hart Foundation.



The tag champs, the Hart Foundation.



Savage is still the champ in the eyes of many.

THE KING WITHOUT A THRONE
RANDY SAVAGE

By J.M. Whitney

What happens after the lights dim and the fanfare dies down? One can't help but wonder what goes through the mind of a wrestler who was once the champ, exalted above the rest. It's back to the lockerroom, as fans carry off the new champ shouting "Hail to the King, Hail to the King, Long Live the King." It surely must be a bitter pill for the exchamp to swallow. There can be only one thing that runs rampant through his mind and that's got to be the thought of retirement. Who wants to spend the rest of their career as a second rate hack? Its got to be rough to think of the fans who once hailed your name amongst the greats of the sport, now, they don't even want to hear your name, let alone give you the time of day. You're a has-been, one who's all washed up. This is the road that most ex-champs eventually must travel. They are destined to be yesterday's news and never again spend their time in the limelight.

Such is the not the case though for Randy "Macho Man" Savage. After losing the Intercontinental title, Savage returned to the wrestling ring with a vengeance and a purpose. What's more, the fans are still behind him a thousand percent. They haven't abandoned their champ in his time of need, rather, it seems as though his following has increased. When the Macho Man walks into the ring, the crowd roar is deafening. Beltless or not, Machomania, once thought as the poor man's Hulkamania is now an undeniable growing force that cannot be ignored or stopped.

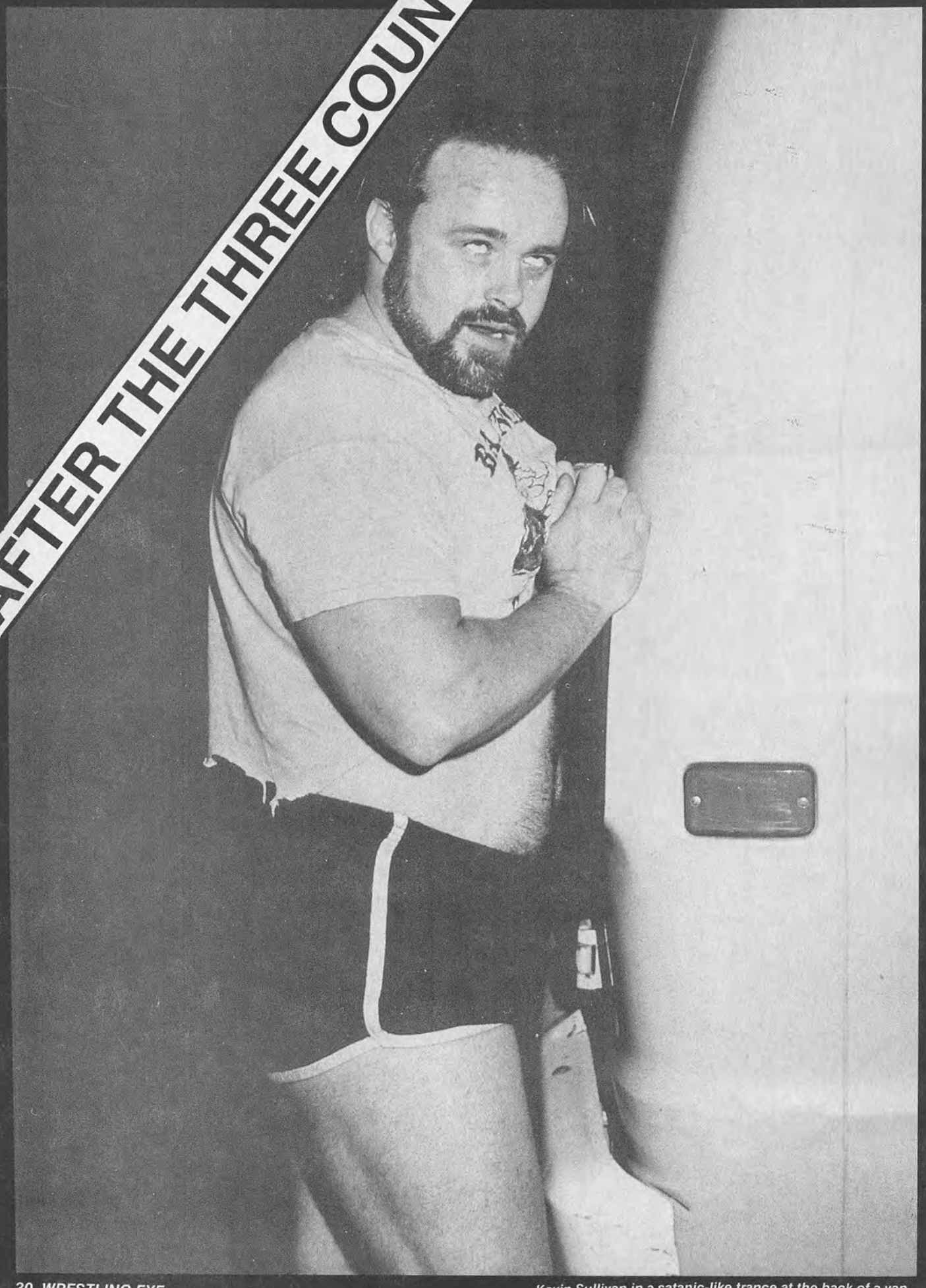
While many critics attribute much of Savage's popularity to his manager and wife, the sexy Miss Elizabeth, she is but one facet of the Machomania enigma. Elizabeth did not make Hulk Hogan toe the line for the championship belt. Elizabeth did not defeat Tito Santana so soundly that he had to enter into semiretirement for a time. NOTE: Tito is now a member of Strike Force, along with Rick Martel. Elizabeth did not plummet from the top rope to put an abrupt stop to Ricky Steamboat's career and almost his life. It's true that Ricky did just become a proud father a few months ago, but the Macho Man's assault has to help in making Ricky decide to lay low for a while. No, Elizabeth did none of these things, in fact if anything, Elizabeth is the weak link in the iron chain of Randy Savage. Sure, she looks great and makes an impressive manager when they enter the ring, but how many times has the outcome of a match been affected because Savage's enemies know how to use her to distract him and eventually disqualify himself due to insane anger and jealousy. There are just too many times to count.

While every Samson has his Delilah, every Goliath, his David, the Macho Man has gone on and continues to be a main force in wrestling. He has tremendous charisma and appeal both inside and outside the ring. He is a fan favorite that ranks up there with the best of them. But, if there is any obstacle that Savage should be given credit for then its got to be the obstacle of being an exchamp and coming back beltless and titleless. Randy Savage has overcome something that has caused many great wrestlers and champions alike to hang up the towel. Savage has put the belt behind him and has moved into the future, undaunted and just as awesome as ever.

What lies ahead for the Macho Man is yet to be seen, but one thing is certain, Randy Savage may not be the Intercontinental champ, but without a title or a belt, the fans have shown that they still consider him to be a champ in the truest sense of the word. The respect and adoration are still there. The champion in the hearts of many still exists, Macho Man lives on!

Macho Man fights his battle without the help of Elizabeth.

AFTER THE THREE COUNT



Kevin Sullivan in a satanic-like trance at the back of a van.

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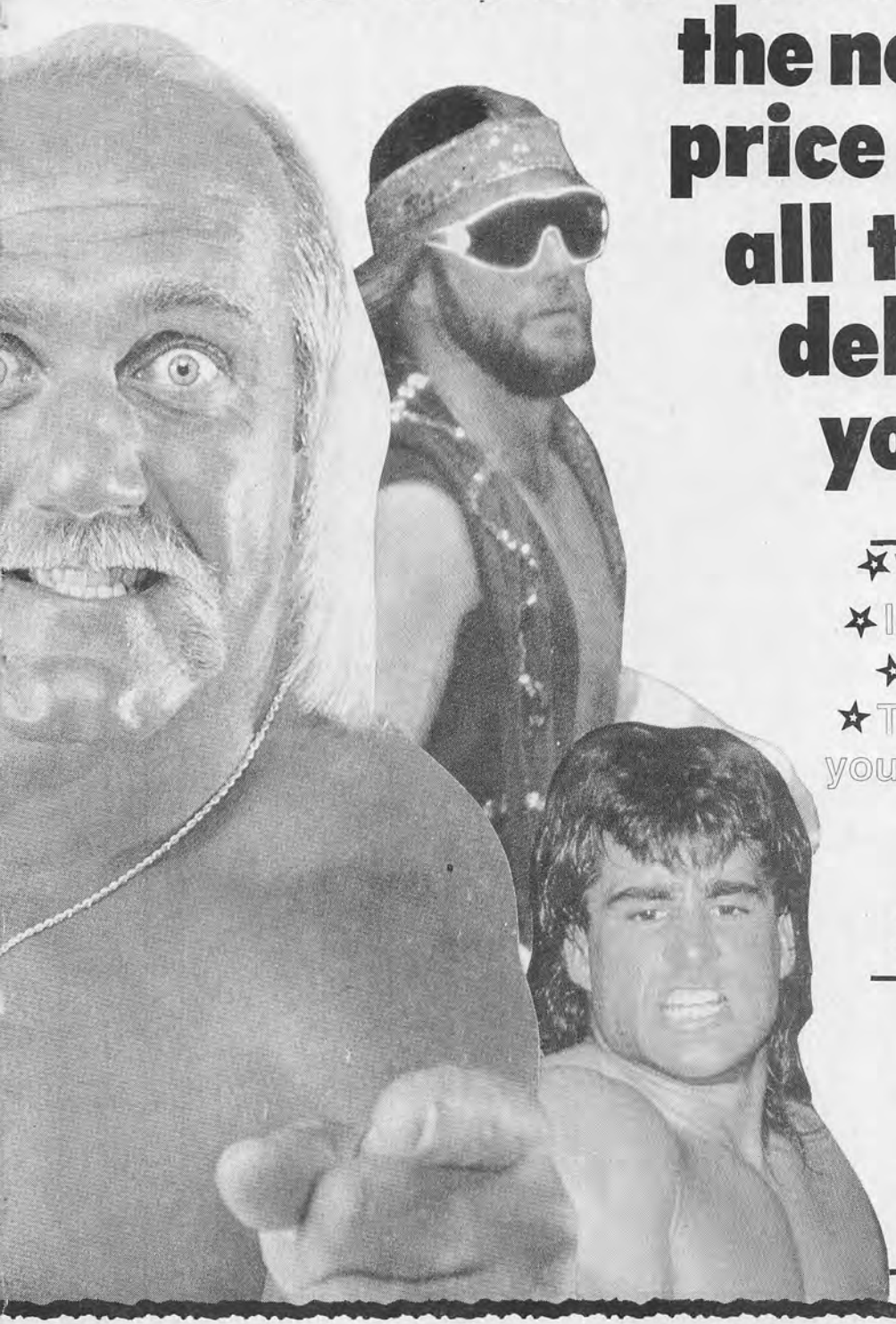

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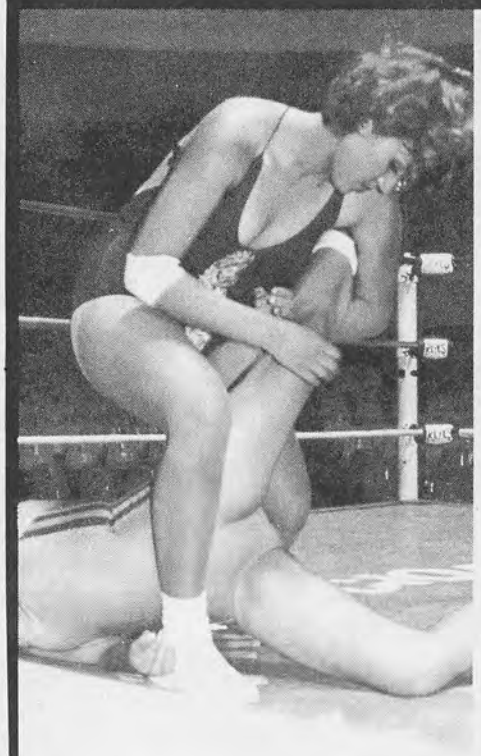
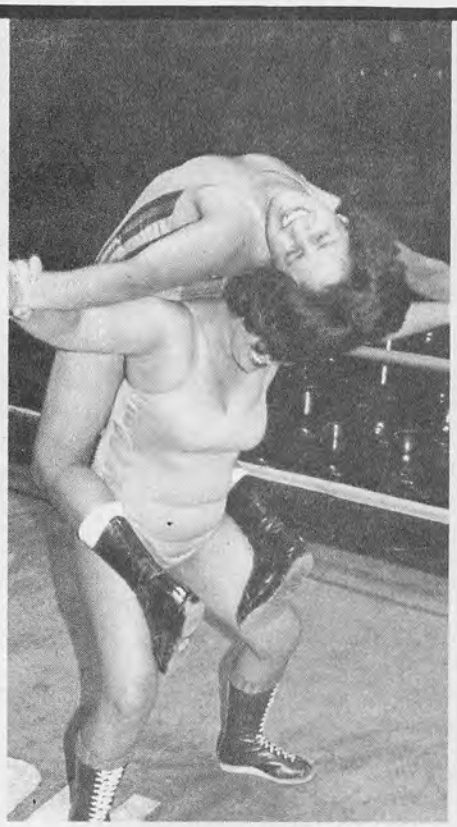
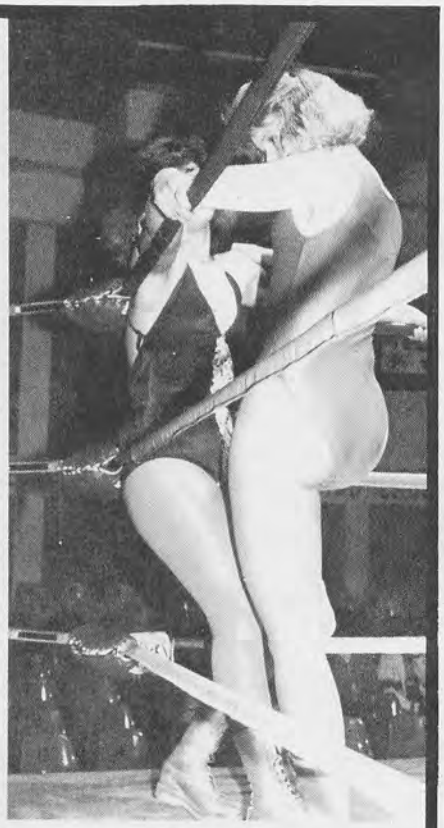
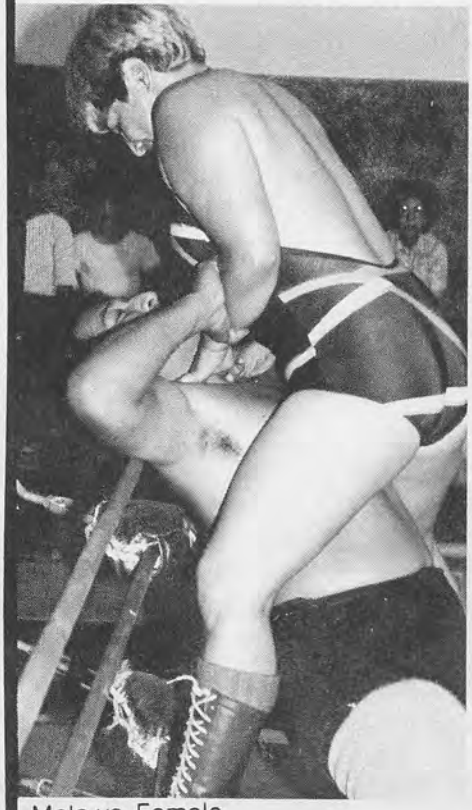
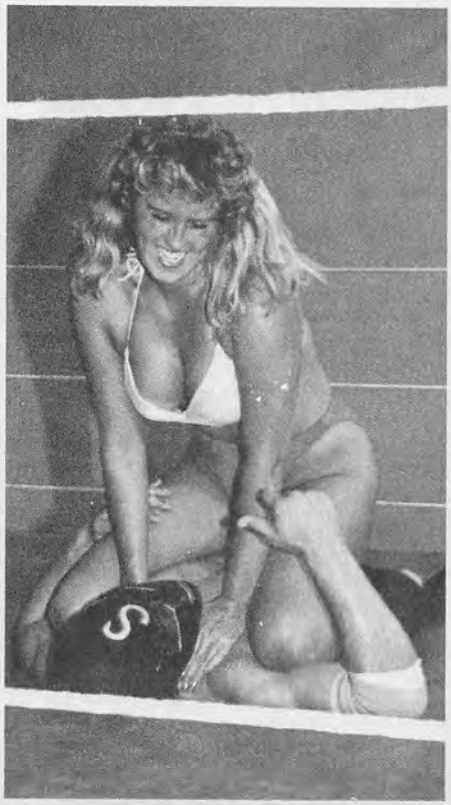


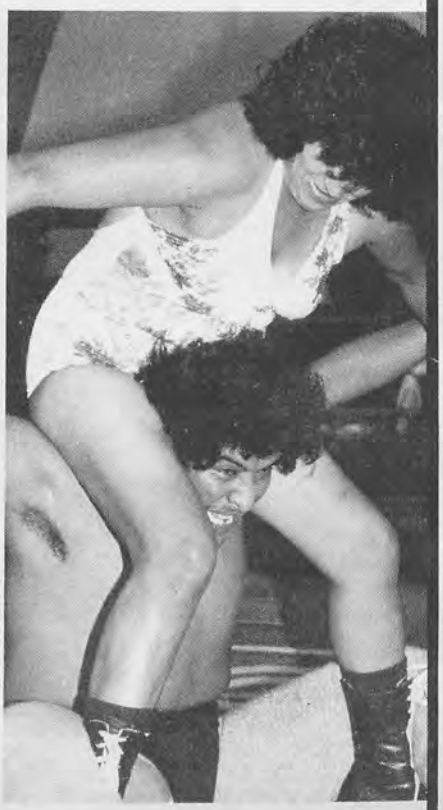




Pro Lady's

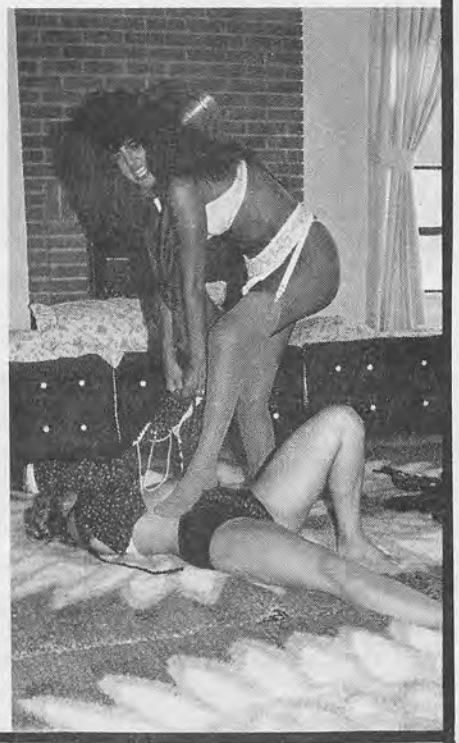






Male vs. Female

Bikini Matches



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The Road Warriors, Animal and Hawk clad in their iron spiked gear.

"THE ROAD WARRIORS"

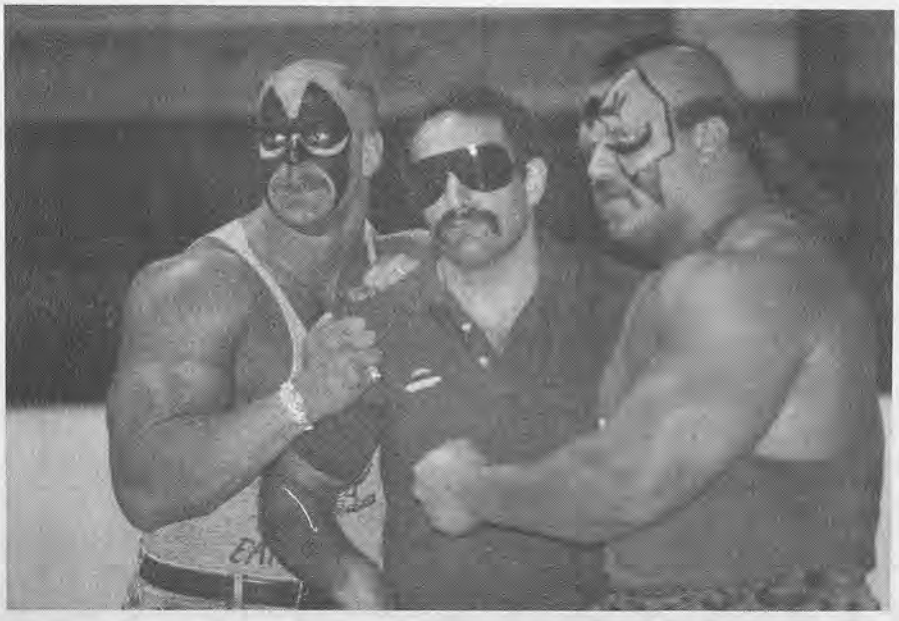
"FROM WRESTLERS TO CARTOON CHARACTERS?"

By DeSpirito

The Road Warriors, Animal and Hawk for the past five years have dominated the wrestling world as the ultimate in tag team competition. Since 1982, the Warriors, with the managerial help of Precious Paul Ellering, have had an unsurpassed record of victories over the top notch teams around the globe. They have proved to be superior to teams throughout the United States in the American Wrestling Association and the National Wrestling Alliance, Japan and literally throughout the rest of the world. No other team has achieved such standards as the Road Warriors. In the past five years, Animal and Hawk, have worn the World tag straps of both the A.W.A. and the N.W.A., as well as about a half a dozen other regional tag tities. They have proven their abilities in this sport like no other duo. Now, the Road Warriors are about to sign with the World Wrestling Federation. Perhaps the Warriors would have been better off to sign a contract with Walt Disney or King Features. If the Roadies do sign with Vince, it's a possibility they'll turn out as cartoon characters. Why then are they planning to sign with Vince? Why? In the past the Roadies have shown to have respect for themselves, promotions, and their sport. So why then have they decided to sign with the World Wrestling Federation? It's plain and simple, money. M-O-N-E-Y, one million dollars of it. Well,

A super test of strength, Animal presses 350 lb., Terry Gordy.

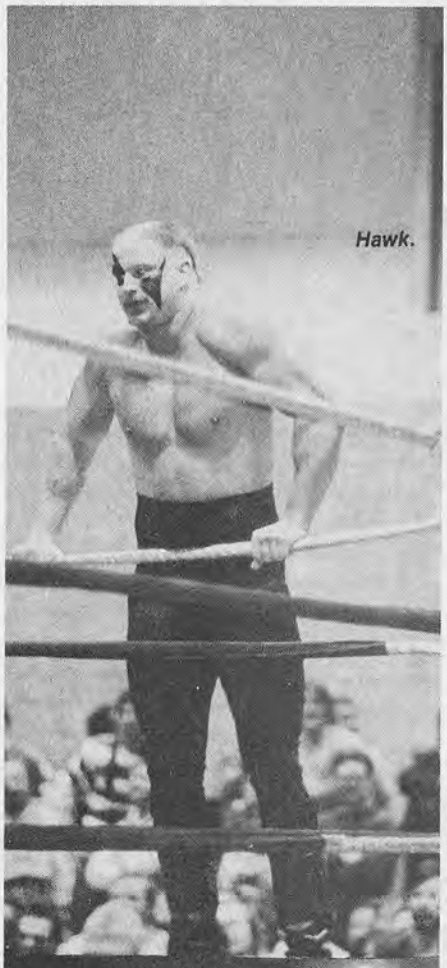
Precious Paul Ellering with his boys, The 'Roadies.'



$325,000.00 split amongst the three isn't that bad. But that's not the breakdown. It's one million dollars apiece. That's right, one million for Hawk, one million for Animal and one million for Precious Paul.

Last year, the World Wrestling Federation made 300 million dollars. Three million is a lot of money to spend on just three men. Next to Hulk Hogan, if the Roadies do sign, they will be the highest paid wrestlers in the W.W.F., and for that matter, the most highly paid in the entire sports entertainment world of professional wrestling.

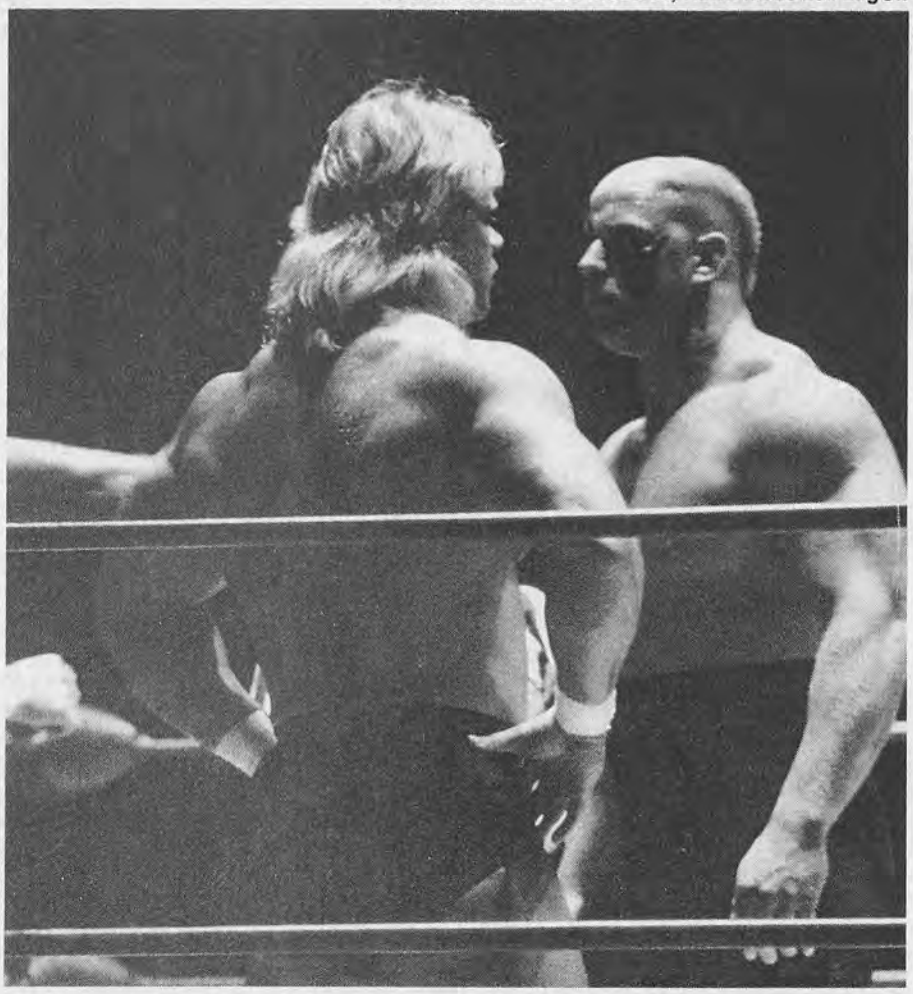
Why did, Vince McMahon decide to splurge so heavily and sign the Roadies for such a large expense? First off, McMahon proba-



Hawk.

Road Warrior Animal. (photo by Al Fanale)

A battle between the muscles, Hawk faces Lex Luger.



bly feels that the Road Warriors, have a gimmick that has yet to be taken to it's ultimate. He could 'capitalize' on that gimmick and use plenty of "hype" to gain even more recognition for Hawk and Animal. In short, the W.W.F. could stand to make a bundle of money with the Road Warriors.

Last year, one third of the W.W.F.'s income, 100 million dollars that is, was made by merchandising. Imagine what Vince could do with the Roadies in this respect. Road Warrior T-shirts and posters, will fill the shows' concession stands. Then can you picture this, ice cream, action figures, toothbrushes, studded wristbands, jackets, cartoons, Halloween costumes, among lots of other merchandise all endorsed by the W.W.F. and embossed with the likenesses of the Roadies.

This merchandising 'feat,' can only be possible if the Roadies can go over with the fans as expected. The only way to tell will be from the attendances at the live shows and if the number of viewers watching television are sufficient for the promotion. What if the Roadies in respect to fan attendances are not up to par and the W.W.F. removes them from the live shows and some T.V. tapings, to then all of a sudden bring them back and expect a tremendous fan approval and attendances, as has been done with many of the W.W.F.'s stars.

You must understand, the W.W.F.'s promoting and marketing philosophy to understand what type of situation the Roadies are getting themselves into. As of this writing, the Roadies are considered the ultimate team in wrestling today. With the W.W.F., will all that change? Will all of the World Wrestling Federation's hype, merchandising and marketing, change all that, and turn the Roadies' Legion of Doom into the 'Legion of the Doomed'? Hopefully, Vince will be careful not to harm the obvious potential the Road Warriors have in regard to the promotional and profit making end of the business. Let the fans still identify the Legion of Doom, the Road Warriors as the ultimate team in wrestling today.

ROBERT GIBSON

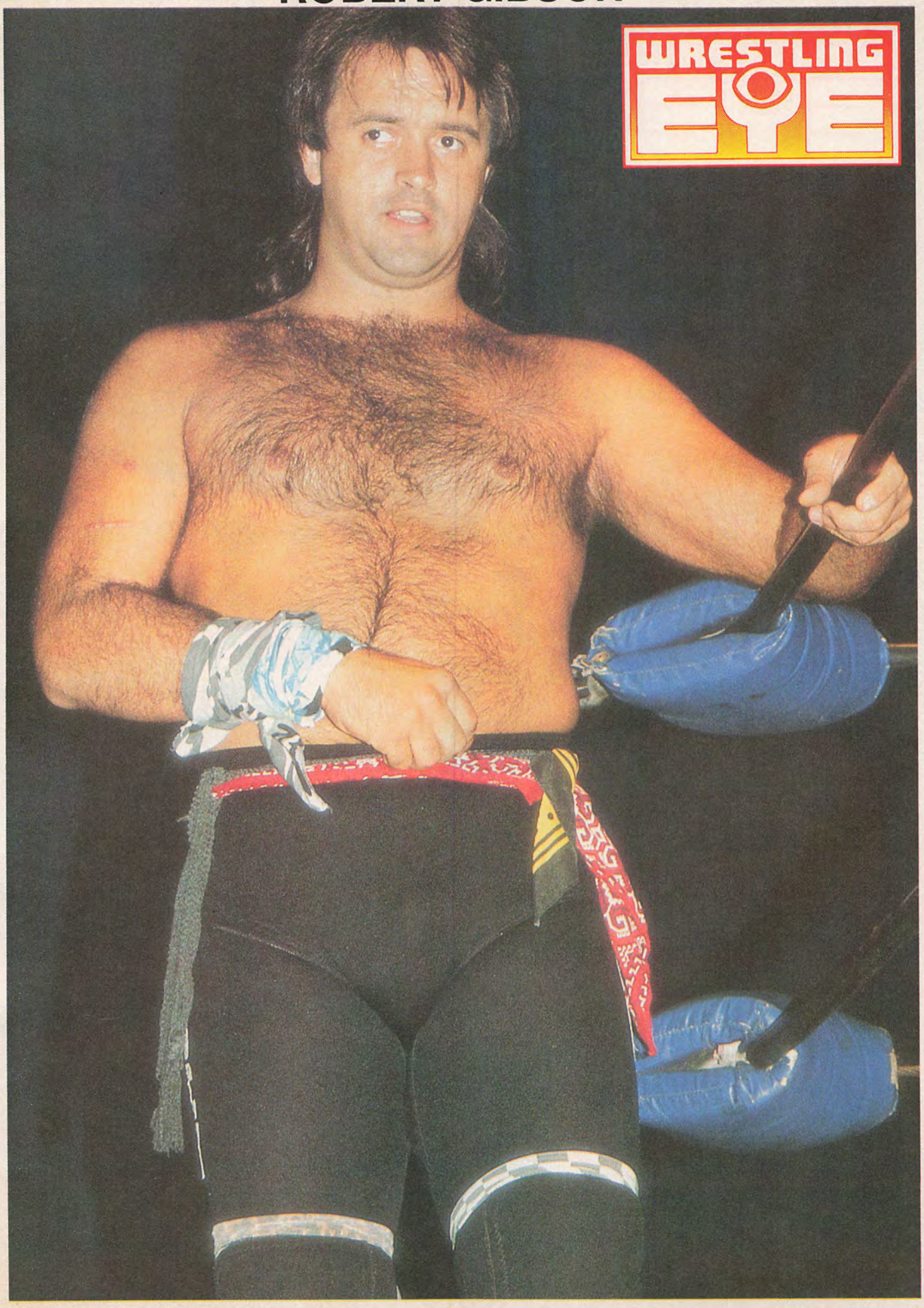


Photo by Steve Beyer

JIM NEIDHART

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NICK BOCKWINKEL

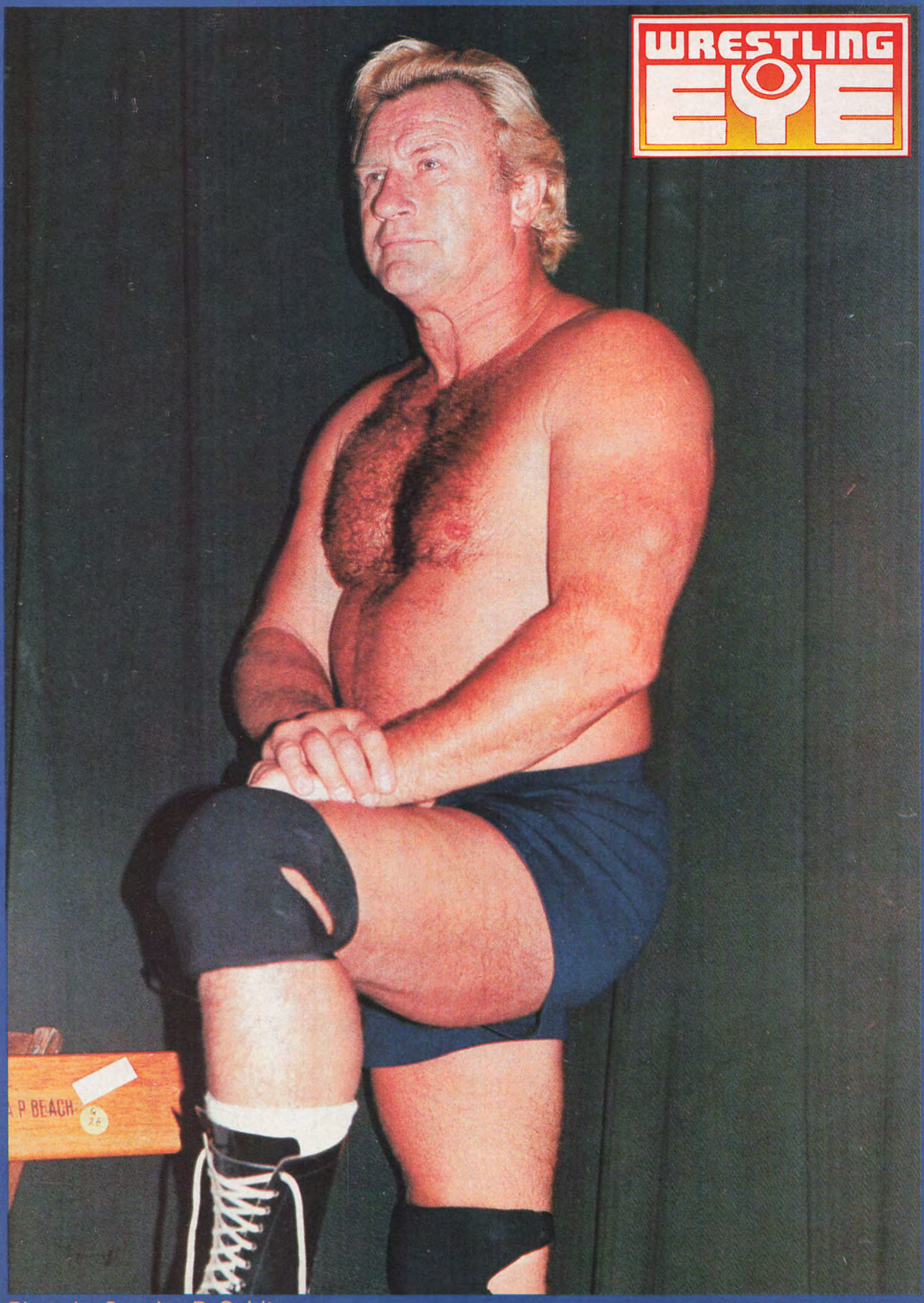
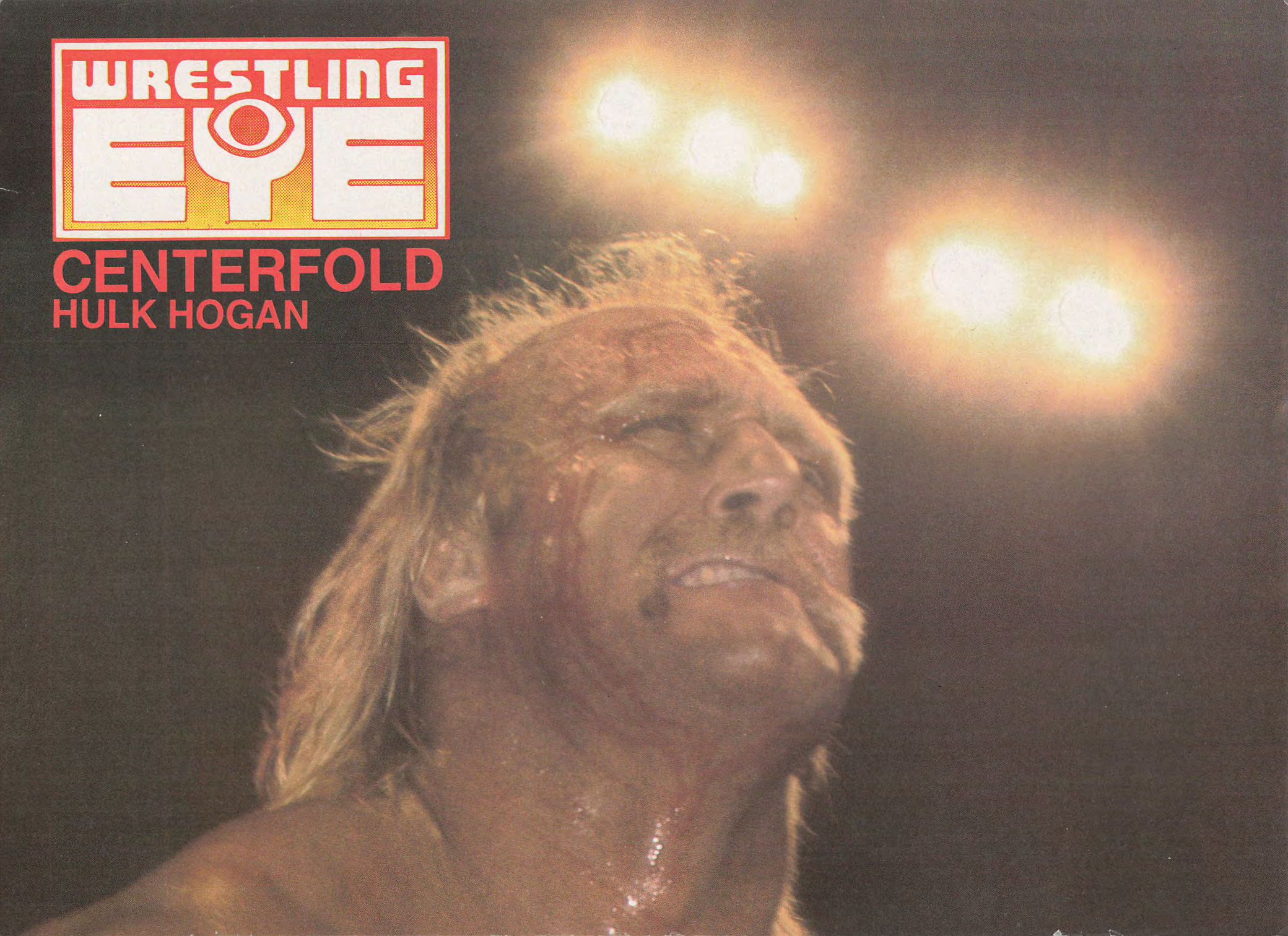


Photo by Carmine DeSpirito


WRESTLING
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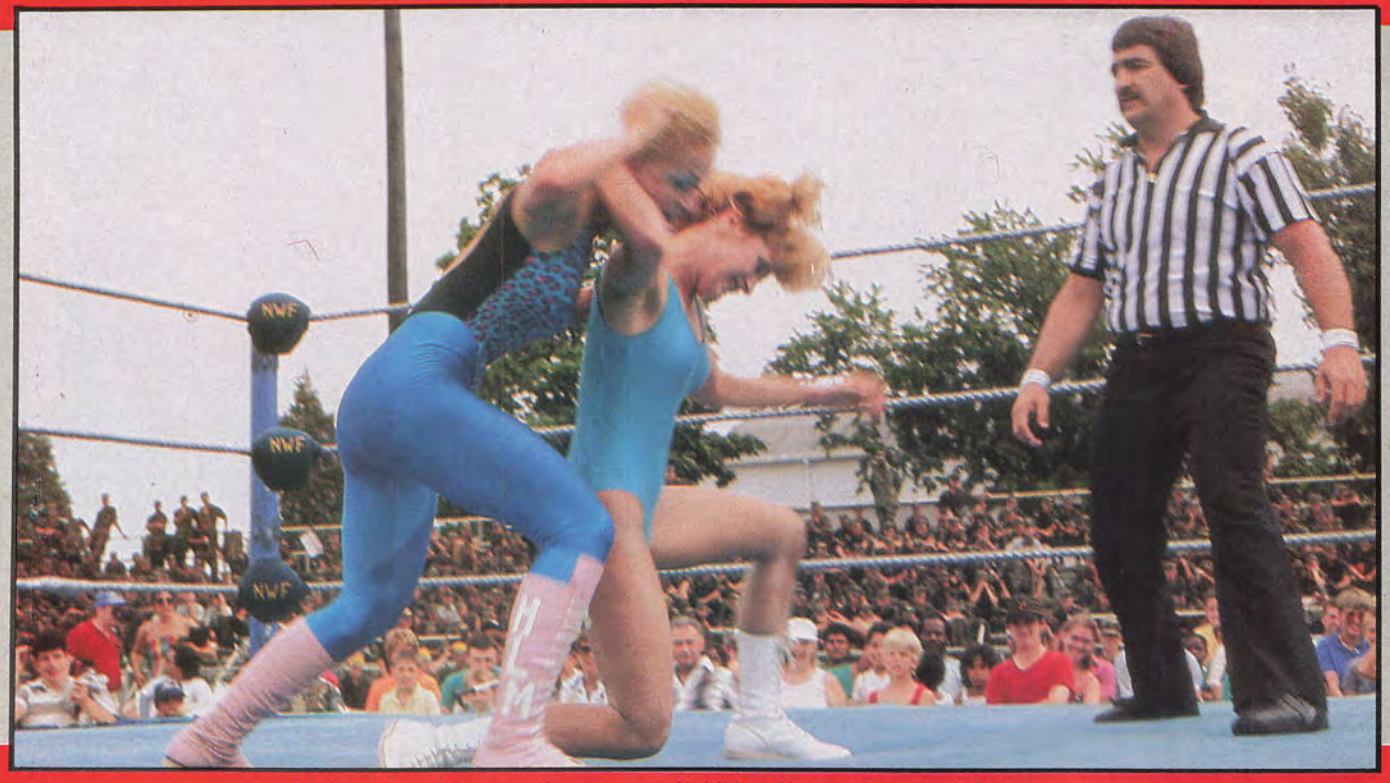
HULK HOGAN

OUTDOOR BATTLE IN FORT DIX

HEIDI LEE MORGAN VS ASHLEY RYAN By DeSpirito

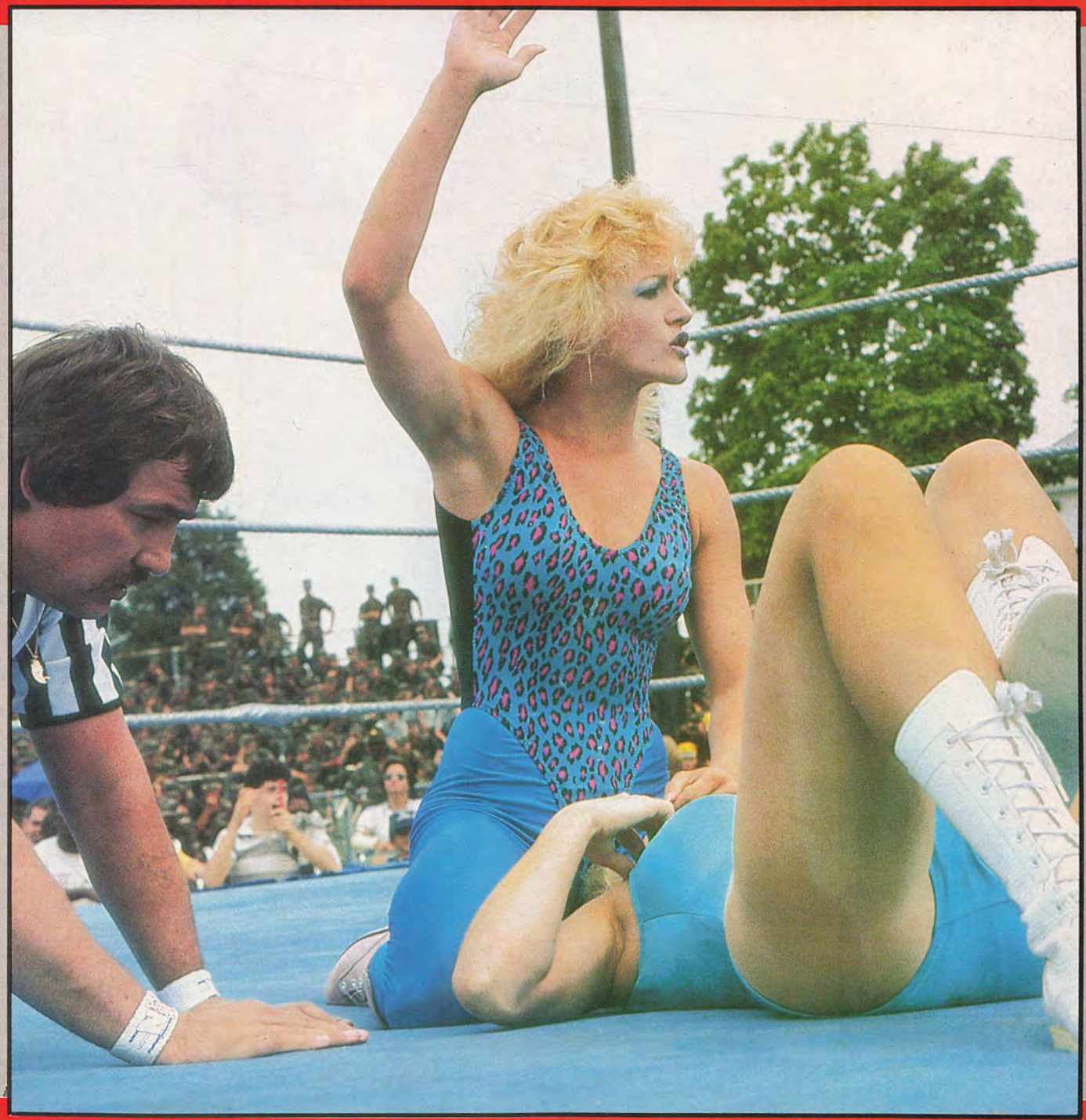
It was a battle of the blondes and in front of 3500 craving soldiers in Fort Dix, New Jersey, the reception was more than normal.



Ashley Ryan snap mares the gorgeous Heidi Lee Morgan down to the canvas.

Heidi whips little Ashley off the ropes.

Heidi backdrops Ashley to the canvas.



Heidi goes for a pin with an arrogant knee to the chest and is successful.

RICHARD BYRNE

U.S.W.F. SUPERSTAR

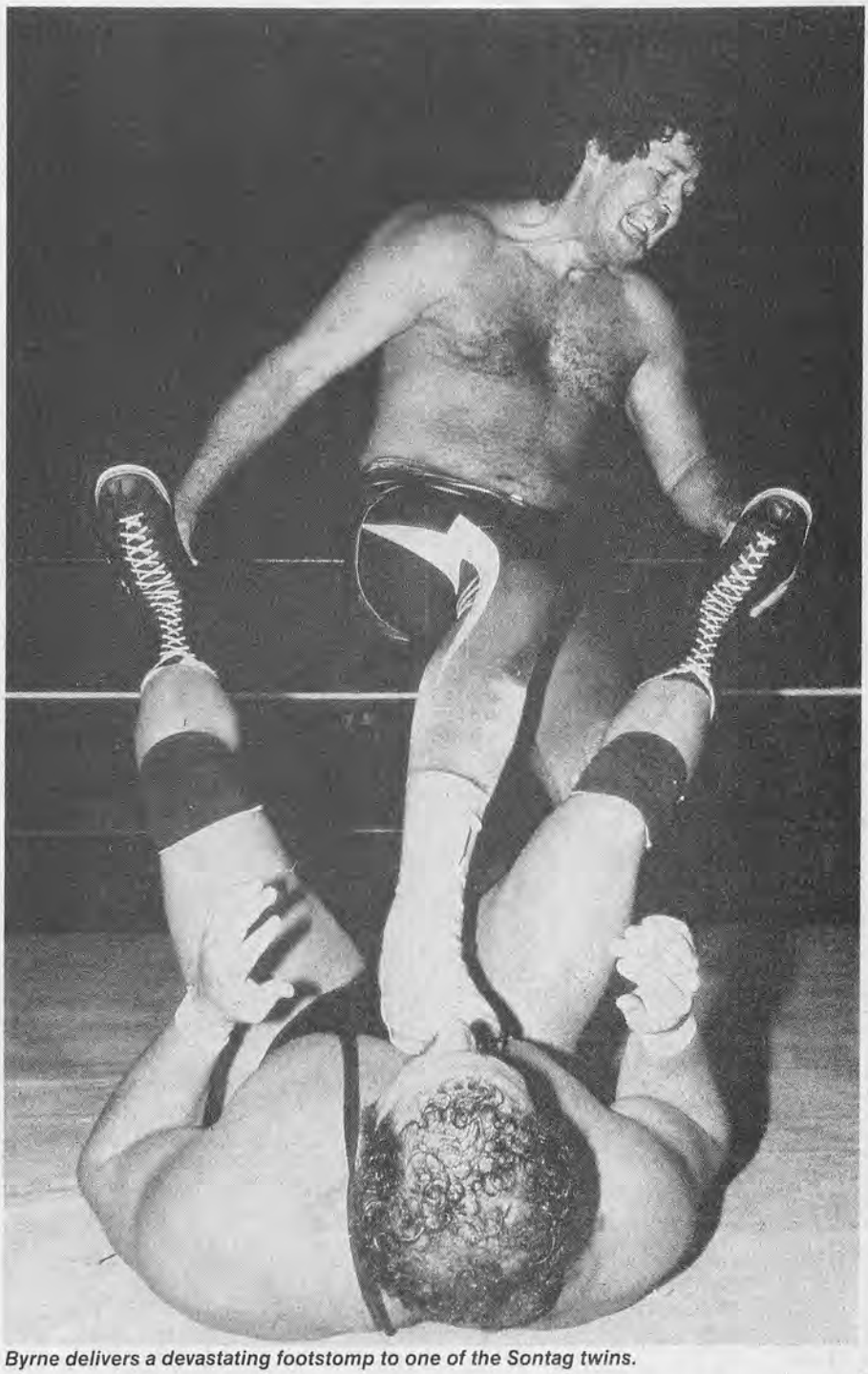
The champ enters the ring to the music "Eye of the Tiger," the capacity crowd rises to their feet, cheering their hero as he comes forward to meet his foe. He is an imposing figure, standing 6'5" and weighing a strong and muscular 265 pounds. His opponent is clearly apprehensive about the bout that is about to take place, but the champ remains cool and confident.

This could be the description of any pro wrestling champion from the many wrestling outfits that abound across the country and the world. But this is not just any champion, this champion is Superstar Richard Byrne, the holder of the United States Wrestling Federation's Heavy Weight title.

Byrne embarked on his wrestling career 8 years ago at the encouragment of Crusher Blackwell and Larry Zybysko. Byrne, who is a well known and respected martial artist was performing with his martial arts entertainment troupe as part of a wrestling card that Zybysko and Blackwell were on. The two well known wrestlers recognized his size and athletic abilities as qualities perfect for pro wrestling and recommended that he get into it. Shortly thereafter Byrne began training and he showed great promise and talent right from the start.

The first bout of his career was against the legendary Killer Kowalski. It was a grueling match and after 32 minutes the two grapplers got so out of hand that the entire locker room of wrestlers had to pry both of them apart. The result was a disqualification for both men. Their feud finally ended a few months later when the two met in the ring for a Texas Death match in which Byrne was declared the winner. With such a victory under his belt, the label of "Superstar," which he was called in the martial arts community, was carried over to his wrestling career. It was obvious to mat fans and experts alike that this man was destined for greatness in the squared circle.

Over the next couple of years, Superstar faced many top wrestling stars up and down the east coast. He quickly gained the reputation as a superb technical wrestler with the ability to unload a dynamic array of karate kicks and punches to any opponent who decided to bend the rules. Unlike some wrestlers who only claim to have a martial arts background, Superstar has been a leading figure in that field for 18 years. He has such outstanding credits as three world's records in board breaking, a book on board breaking, movie roles in several martial arts movies, and the ownership of a large chain of karate schools in the Boston area.



Byrne delivers a devastating footstomp to one of the Sontag twins.

In 1981 he formed one half of a championship tag team and as such became one of the stars of a very popular Boston based TV wrestling show. Along with his partner Dan Petty, the two worked together like a well oiled machine. Combining their respective talents of speed, agility, power and technique, they formed one of the most devastating tag teams of all time. When the show came to an end Petty moved to another territory and Byrne opted to return to singles competition at which he had been so successful in previous years.

In 1985 the United States Wrestling Federation was formed. Based just outside of Boston, Mass., the U.S.W.F. is more than just a 'local yokel' outfit. It has

been responsible for bringing a wide representation of some of today's top wrestling stars to the area. It was one such star, Dr. D. David Shultz, who began a better feud with Byrne soon after he attained the heavy weight title. Because Byrne has such a large following in the northeast and is considered one of New England's top wrestlers, it was logical for Shultz to pick Byrne as the target for his insults. Nothing would please the Dr. more than to pulverize the champion in front of his numerous fans and take the belt at the same time. Superstar gladly accepted Shultz's challenge to a bout. The two grapplers, comparable in size and weight battled it out on several occasions but their feud came to a head during a steel cage match this past Valentine's Day.

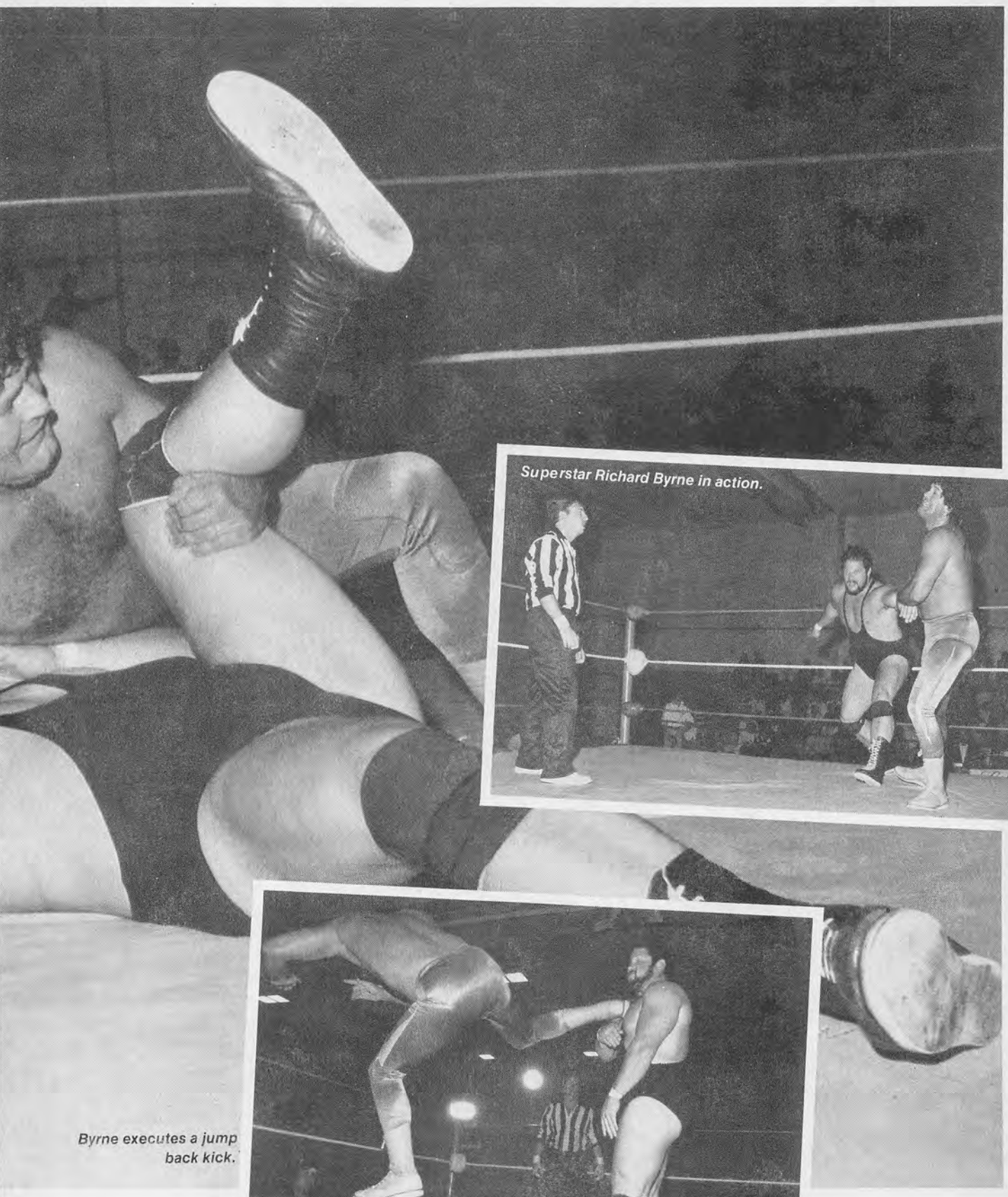
It was a punishing bout and after 20 minutes of brutal pounding for both men, Superstar delivered a devastating flying body press to the chest of Dr. D. Superstar made his way to the door, but Shultz's obnoxious manager suddenly struck referee Paul Richard, pushed him away from the door, jamming it shut. He then tossed his ever present cane over the top of the cage where it landed within inches of Shultz's grasp. Staggering to his feet he made his way to where Superstar knelt trying to open the jammed door. He began beating Superstar about the head and ribs with the cane and while Superstar lay holding his injured body, Shultz escaped out the door. Referee Paul Richard disqualified Dr. D. and Superstar was declared the winner and still holder of the U.S.W.F. Heavy Weight title.

Presently Superstar Byrne is the star of a weekly TV wrestling show "United States Championship Wrestling" and has just returned from an extensive tour of Western Canada where he also remained undefeated.

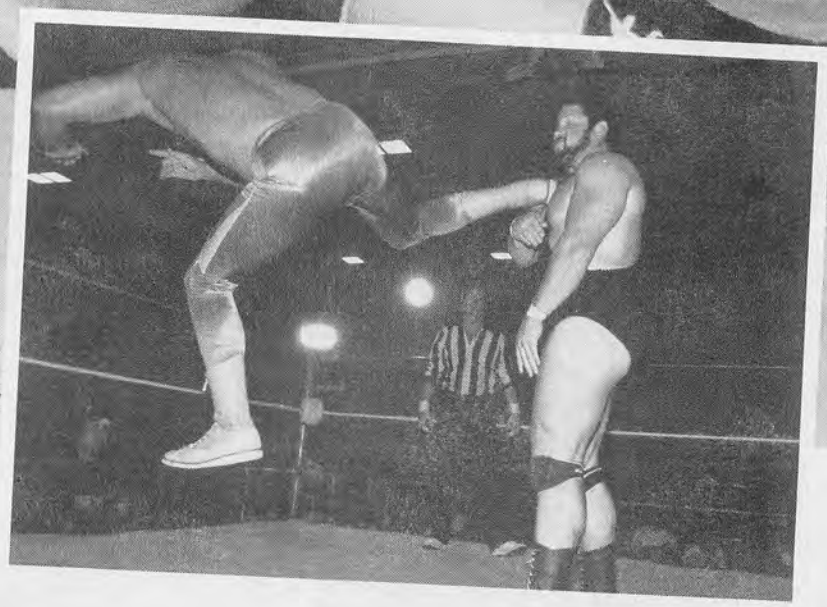
Previously he was unable to pursue a contract in some of the larger organizations, although he had offers, because of his commitment to his chain of karate schools. Now with so much time in the martial arts, he has developed a large staff, enabling him to travel extensively and increase his wrestling coverage. His next tour is to South Africa.

No opponent is too formidable for the champ.

It has been some time since the wrestling world has seen such a diverse and talented wrestler as Superstar Richard Byrne. Now that he has come into the wrestling spotlight with the Heavy Weight title in the U.S.W.F. you will be seeing quite a bit more of him as he gains national and international recognition.

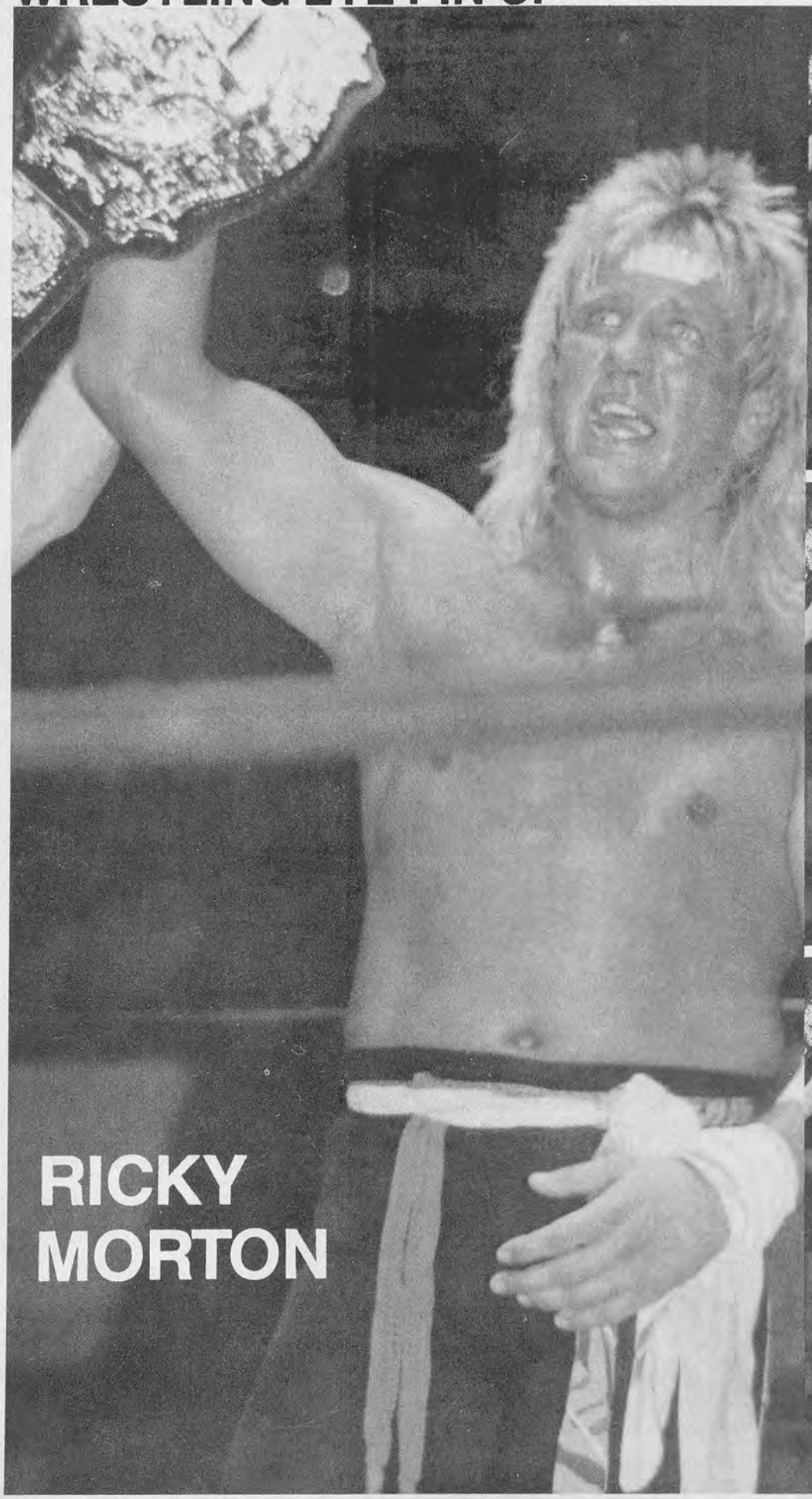


Superstar Richard Byrne in action.



Byrne executes a jump back kick.

WRESTLING EYE PIN UP



RICKY MORTON

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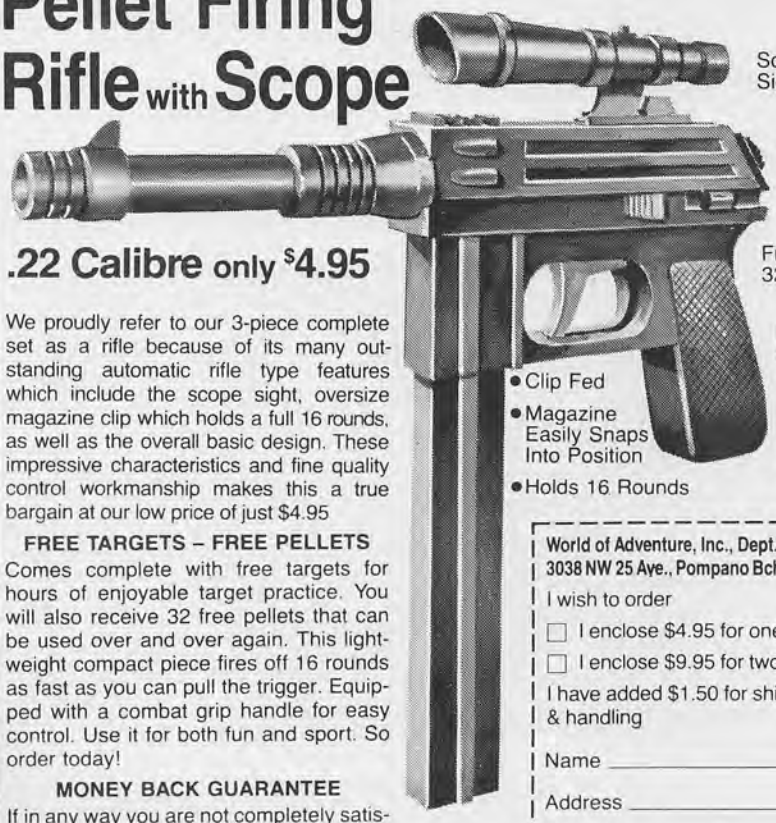

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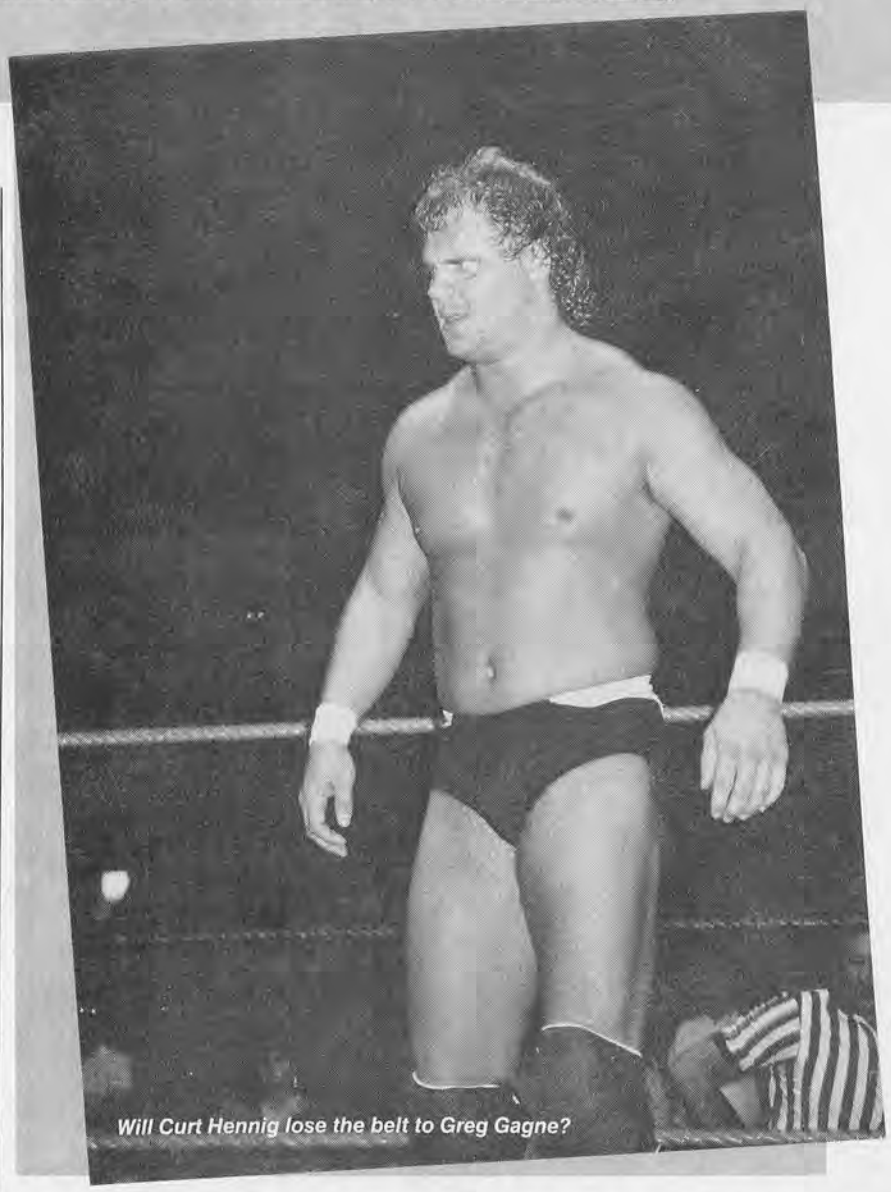
PHANTOM of the ring



Will Curt Hennig lose the belt to Greg Gagne?

Bruiser Brody suffered his first defeat in seven years. He was pinned by Abdullah the Butcher in Fort Worth, Texas... Tom Zenk of course left the W.W.F. for some mysterious reason. There are speculations as to why he left, but I'd rather not say and avoid slander charges. If it's what I think it is, then it's very embarrassing and degrading to Zenk. Well anyway, enough of that. Zenk currently will be working for his old instructor, Eddie Sharkey on some independent shows. He'll probably end up with Verne in the A.W.A.... Speaking of Verne, I've heard that Adrian Adonis is not happy there in the A.W.A. and will be leaving there soon... Did you see Paul E. Dangerously on ESPN with 'Ted E. Bear'? Verne is getting a little silly ...In the W.W.F. news the return of Mr. T isn't going over that well. In Philadelphia, Vince only drew 4,000 people. It was so bad, I heard you could buy first row ringside seats at the door... Aids testing have begun in the W.W.F., which is the smartest move they've ever made. I think Crockett should do the same... Saw Luke Graham recently. He still wrestles the same as he ever did, and moves well considering how long he's been in the business... Fritz Von Erich of World Class is suing the doctors who operated on Mike, for a shoulder injury two years ago. He said because of the operation, Mike suffered mental stress that caused him to commit suicide... Ronnie Garvin is being sued for $455,000.00 for supposedly hitting a fan back in 1983 in Wheeling, West Virginia... Independent wrestling is gaining much success and adornment Puerto Rico... Soon you'll see Virgil tagging with Di-Biase in the W.W.F.... I've been

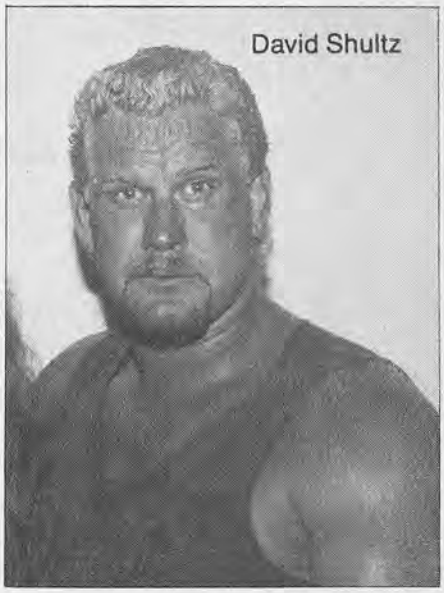
told that David Sammartino is going to be used to manage DiBiase. This will cause tension between David and Bruno, thereby making a match for Wrestlemania IV... Shawn Simpson looks pretty good for a rookie. In time he'll probably be champ of World Class. Vince needs some new young talent. Shawn and Steve Simpson would make a great choice...Question, who do you think will defeat Curt Hennig for the A.W.A. belt. Believe it or not but Greg Gagne will probably take the strap...The Iron Sheik has returned to the ring, but not with the W.W.F. as of yet. As of this writing, he's been wrestling for Northeast independent organizations, the T.W.W.F. and the U.S.W.F....The Junkyard Dog has left Vince. God knows where he'll show up...Dr. 'D' David Shultz will be seen soon all over the country in magazine ads for 'Gleem' toothpaste. "It cleans the toughest teeth!"...Shane Douglas, who wrestles in the U.W.F., by the way is really Troy Orndorff, Paul's little brother. You may also remember him as W.W.F. job boy, Troy Martin ...The U.W.F. finally got its T.V. deal in the New York City area. They're going on WPIX. Crockett tried last year with his Mid Atlantic show, but because he was already on WTBS, he couldn't. You see, there's some sort of rule that he couldn't be on two superstations at the same time...Exclusive News—The National Wrestling Federation, has just signed, Rick Zumwalt, a.k.a. Bull Hearley as a wrestler. You may remember Bull, he was the big arm wrestler in Sylvester Stallone's 'Over The Top'...One final thing, What's wrong with Lex Luger? Does he have bad jock itch or what?

Nintendo, a leader in video games has just come out with the "Pro Wrestling Game pak. It allows players to choose from 22 techniques and to choose their favorite wrestlers to compete in teams or singly against the computer. Sounds like fun!

A wrestling fan in Manitoba, Canada says one of the British Bulldogs punched him when he asked for an autograph for his wife.

Sgt. Slaughter has just enlisted to help fight overexposure to the sun. He's now the spokesman for Le Zink brand fashion sunscreen with zinc oxide.

Flash—Last minute info. On a sad note, I've just learned that Scott 'The Hogg' Irwin has passed away. Irwin will best be remembered as the tag team partner of his brother, 'Wild Bill Irwin. He also wrestled as the Super Destroyer in Georgia in which with his brother, he held the National Tag Team Titles. Scott died of a brain tumor. He was 37 years old.


David Shultz

Sgt. Slaughter is the spokesman for "Le Zink."

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- RULE BOOKLET which includes rules for special matches!
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Return check and coupon to:
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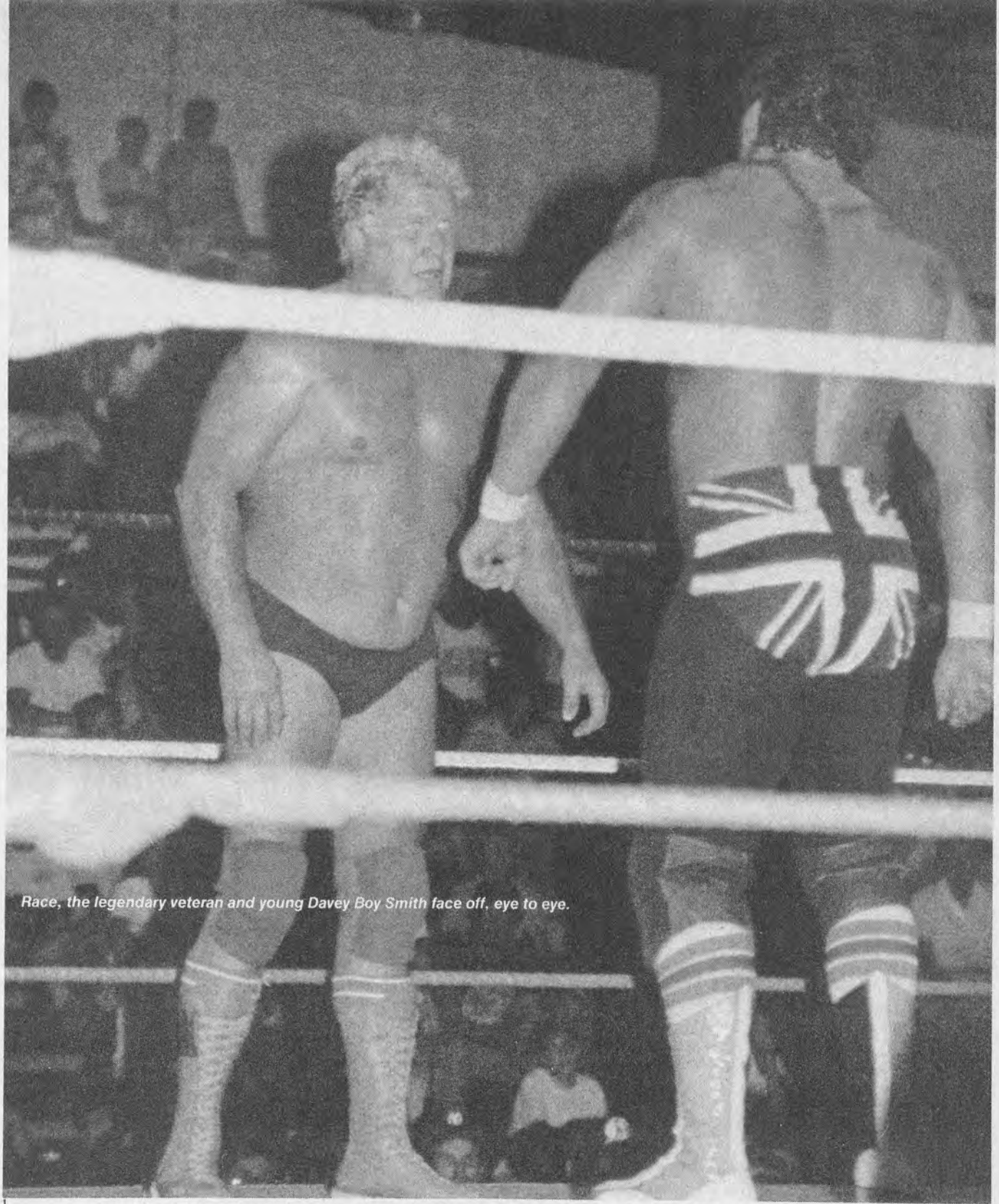
Champions of the Galaxy © 1986, Filsinger Games



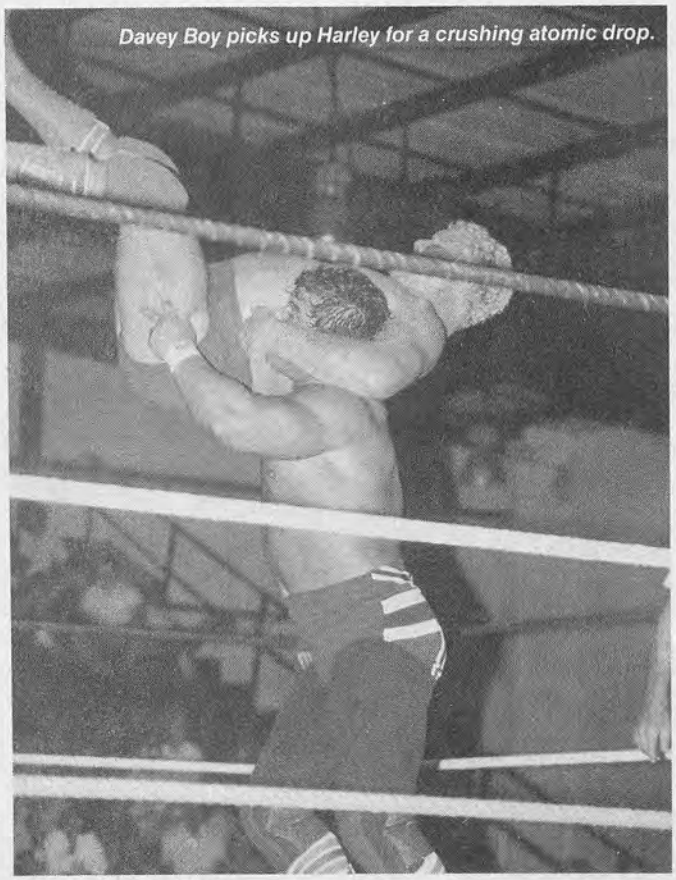
Race, the legendary veteran and young Davey Boy Smith face off, eye to eye.

MATCH OF THE MONTH

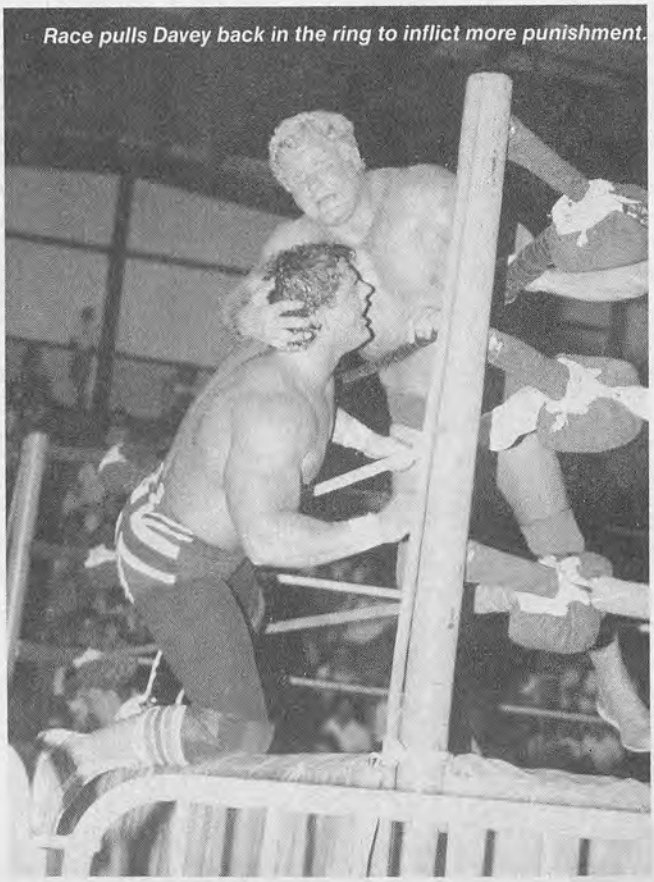
DAVEY BOY SMITH VS HARLEY RACE

By DeSpirito

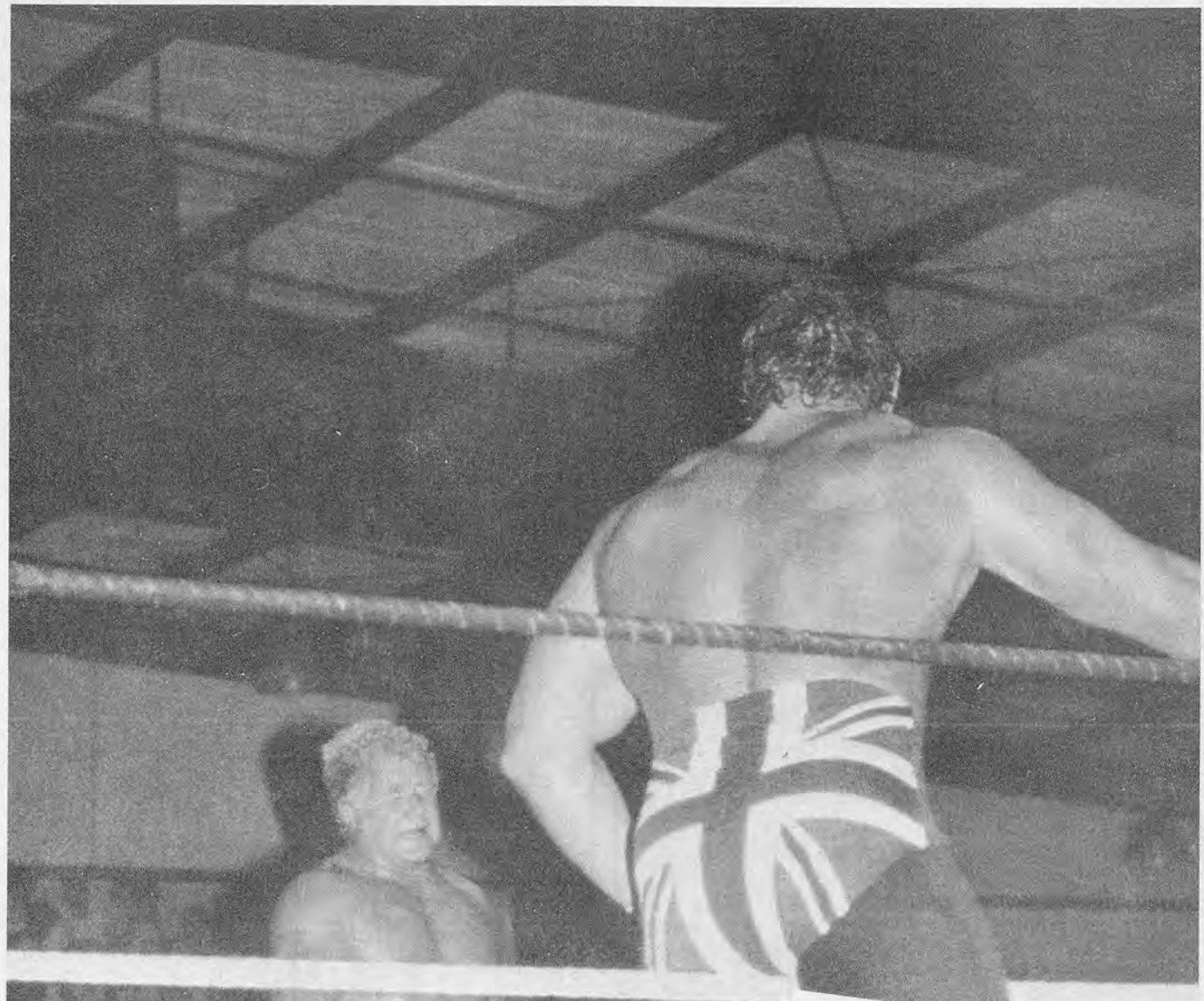
Handsome Harley lands a fist to the midsection of Davey Boy Smith that sends the "Bulldog" reeling.

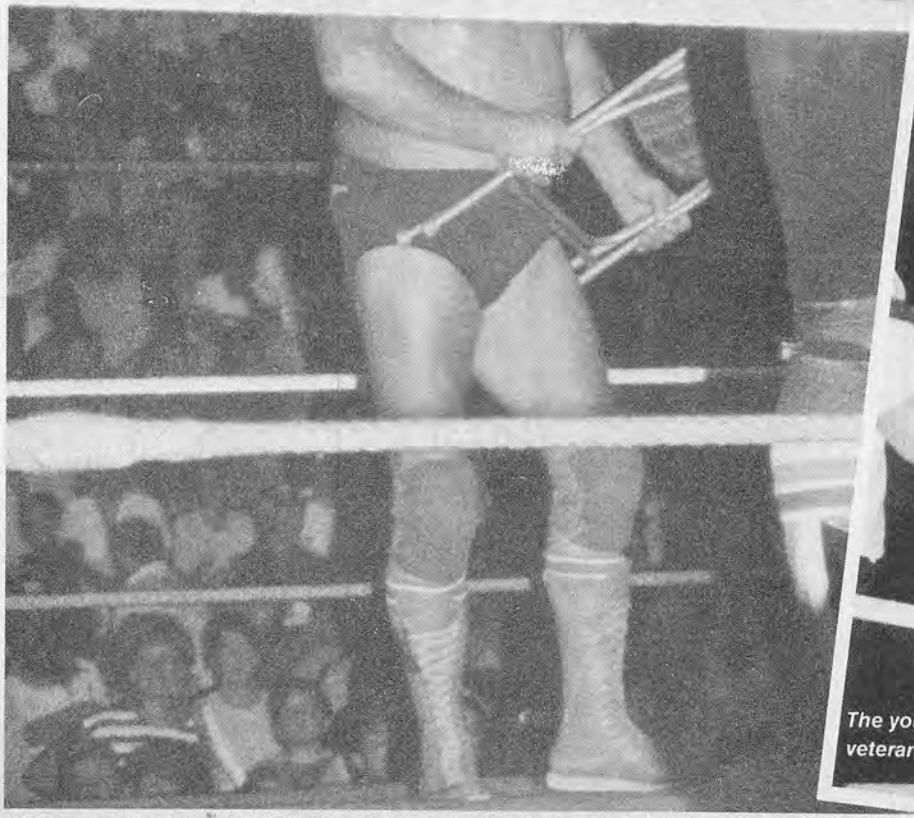


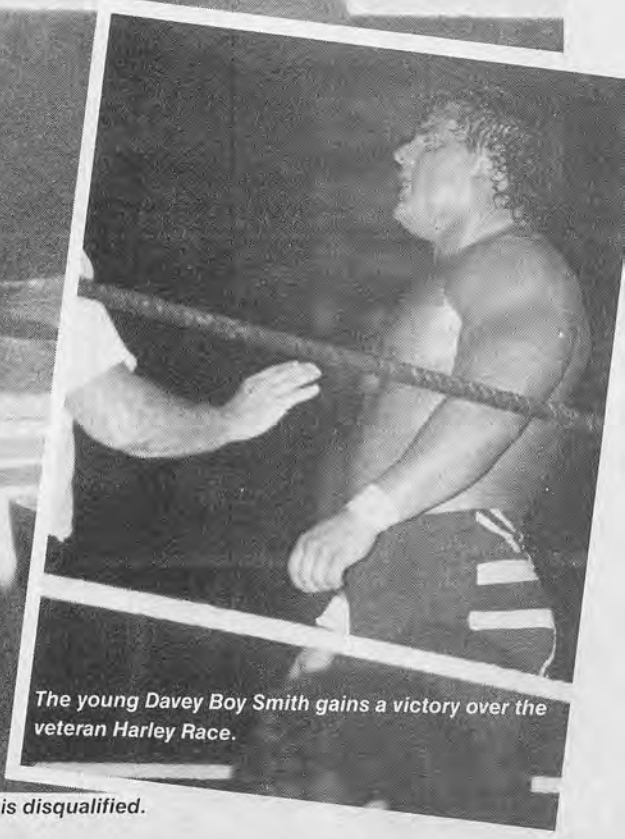
Davey Boy picks up Harley for a crushing atomic drop.



Race pulls Davey back in the ring to inflict more punishment.







The young Davey Boy Smith gains a victory over the veteran Harley Race.

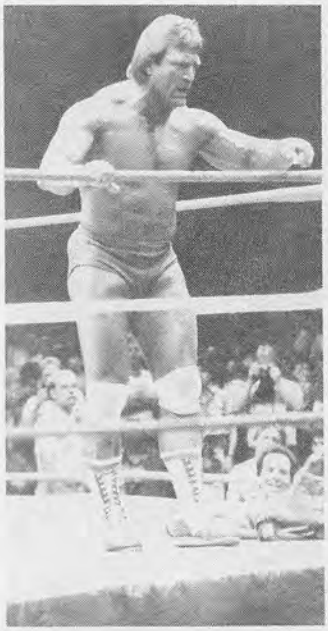
Things seem to be going Davey Boy's way. Harley brings a chair into the ring and is disqualified.

WRESTLING

WWF

Champ—Hulk Hogan

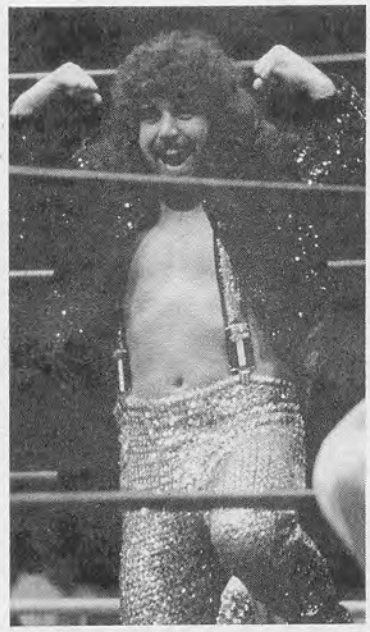
1. Ted DiBiase
2. The HonkyTonk Man
3. Randy Savage
4. Jake Roberts
5. Paul Orndorff
6. Billy Graham
7. Butch Reed
8. Hercules Hernandez
9. King Kong Bundy
10. Hacksaw Duggan
11. Koko B. Ware
12. Rick Rude
13. Kamala
14. Don Muraco
15. Daveyboy Smith



NWA

Champ—Ric Flair

1. Lex Luger
2. Nikita Koloff
3. Dusty Rhodes
4. Tully Blanchard
5. Barry Windham
6. Ron Garvin
7. Arn Anderson
8. Jimmy Garvin
9. Jimmy Valiant
10. Manny Fernandez
11. Sean Royal
12. Michael Hayes
13. Brad Armstrong
14. Lazertron
15. Chris Champion



UWF

1. Dr. Death Steve Williams
2. Big Bubba
3. Terry Gordy
4. Terry Taylor
5. Chris Adams
6. Sting
7. Dick Murdoch
8. Rick Steiner
9. Shane Douglas
10. Steve Cox

NWF

1. D. C. Drake
2. Sgt. Slaughter
3. Bruiser Brody
4. Abdullah the Butcher
5. David Shultz
6. Nord the Barbarian
7. Col. DeBeers
8. Cousin Luke
9. Ivan Putski
10. Adrian Street

EWA

1. David Shultz
2. The Wild Somoans
3. Sgt. Slaughter
4. The Cheetah Kid
5. Ivan Putski
6. Jules Strongbow
7. Cousin Junior
8. Ox Baker
9. Johnny Rodz
10. Tom "Mr.N.J." Cairo

EYE OFFICIAL RATINGS

NEWA

1. David Shultz
2. The Cheetah Kid
4. Johnny Rodz
5. The Twin Towers
6. Mike Sundance
7. Bruiser Brody
8. Jules Strongbow
9. The Wild Samoans
10. Tommy 'Mr. N.J.' Cairo

WORLD CLASS

1. Al Perez
2. Kevin Von Erich
3. Tony Atlas
4. Steve Simpson
5. Al Madril
6. Brian Adias
7. Ted Arcedi
8. Abdullah the Butcher
9. Bruiser Brody
10. Shawn Simpson

World WOMEN

Ratings

1. Misty Blue Simmes
2. Sherri Martel
3. Linda Dallas
4. Wendi Richter
5. Debbi Combs
6. Velvet McIntyre
7. Nina
8. Lelani Kai
9. Judy Martin

TOP TEN MANAGERS

1. J.J. Dillon
2. Bobby Heenan
3. Jimmy Hart
4. Paul Ellering
5. Jim Cornette
6. Gary Hart
7. Sir Oliver Humperdink
8. Paul E. Dangerously
9. Wendall Weatherbee
10. Sheik Abdullah

Top 15 Tag TEAMS

1. The Road Warriors
2. The Rock N Roll Express
3. The Hart Foundation
4. Tito Santana & Rick Martel
5. The Midnight Express
6. The Fantastics
7. Tully Blanchard & Arn Anderson
8. The Midnight Rockers
9. Brad Armstrong and Tim Horner
10. Demolition
11. The Sheep Herders
12. Greg Valentine & Dino Bravo
13. Paul Roma & Jim Powers
14. The Invaders
15. The Wild Somoans

TOP 15

The WORLD'S TOP 15 (RATED BY WRESTLING ABILITY)

1. Ric Flair
2. Barry Windham
3. Tatsumi Fuginami
4. Tully Blanchard
5. Ricky Steamboat
6. Terry Taylor
7. Rick Martel
8. Bret Hart
9. Daveyboy Smith
10. Seam Michaels
11. Riki Chosu
12. Jumbo Tsuruta
13. Ted DiBiase
14. The Amazing Rocca
15. Harley Race

FAN CLUB COLUMN

Any material for review, or other correspondence can be sent to FAN CLUB COLUMN, C/O WRESTLING EYE, PO BOX 138, MARLBORO, NJ 07746

REVIEWS

This month's column features all your old favorites, along with a lot of new and noteworthy bulletins and fanzines. Without further ado, let's get down to business!

RICHMOND WRESTLING REPORT: 9348 Telstar Rd., Richmond, Va 23237, 50¢ per issue. Yearly $6.00.

This bulletin will get you up to date on the current happenings of the sport. There's news, puzzles, features, photos and games. There's also a special page that is devoted each issue to you, the wrestling fan. Back issues from Oct. '86 are available for 50¢. Also available are pencils, pins, buttons of your favorite wrestlers. For the price, you can't go wrong.

PINFALL: David Copeland, ED. 2 Clifton Park Ct, Melrose, Ma 02176 $1.50 per issue.

This is a ratings and results oriented bulletin that covers federations from around the country. This bulletin that is looking for results from all areas from you fans out there. If you send in results from your hometown, the editor will send your results from the Boston Garden and and your name will appear in a future issue. Be sure to include the date of the card and where the card was held. Also, the editors other publication RING RESULT is no longer being published. However back issues of both bulletins are available. Write the editor at the above address for more information.

MANIAC'S WRESTLING REPORT: c/o TESSFA PO Box 682, Church Street Station NY NY 10008. $8.00 for 12 monthly issues.

This is the first fanzine that is done strictly with computers. Readers can get in touch with the editor via E-mail on Quantum-Link to Q-Link username Maniac 7 or by leaving a message to *MANIAC* (don't forget the astericks) on Valhalla BBS 212-598-0243. The above information is for all of you with your own computer terminals. The Maniac is looking for reporters to add to his growing staff. Just send in the results from matches that you've attended and you will receive the issue that your match appeared in free. Basically, this is a results oriented bulletin, along with an editorial page. C'mon, help the Maniac launch this innovative fanzine and contribute!

WRESTLING NEWS BULLETIN: Niles Driskell, ED. 3010 W. Cypress Dr. Muncie, Indiana 47304. $1.00 per issue. $10.00 for a yearly subscription. Published monthly. A new bulletin on that market that is looking to give readers the current news in wrestling, along with results of matches and current champs. Promotions covered are the NWA, AWA, WWF, UWF and Worlds Class. The editor is looking for match results from correspondents out there. He will also answer questions about wrestling. The first issue gave ratings, a list of current champs and some small article type features. Let's keep an eye on this one in the future, as the editor seems really enthusiastic and wants to keep expanding with each new issue.

CANVAS CHRONICLES: Kevin Sendi, ED. 3522 Valleyview Lane, West Bloomfield, Michigan 48033. Published monthly. $2.25 per issue.

Another new fanzine out this month, CANVAS CHRONICLES focuses most of its four pages on late breaking news thats usually not found in most major publications (except WRESTLING EYE, of course!) It deals exclusively with the WWF unusual match results and ratings of rulebreakers only round out this fanzine. The price seems a bit steep but we'll have to see what comes out in the next issue.

MAT MADNESS: Brian Cosgrove and Mike Kalbrenner ED. Published bimonthly. $1.00 per issue $10.50 for six issues.

MAT MADNESS gives news, ratings, results, trivia and a fantasy match for the lowly price of a buck. Seems to me you can't ask for too much more. This little bulletin wraps everything up nicely and is clear and easy to read. Looking forward to the next issue, guys!

WRESTLING WIRE: Barbi Barker, ED. 2019 Third Ave, New Brighton, Pa 15066 $1.60 per issue.

Month after month, this newsletter is published. it features results mostly with some news and a letters page. Check it out, you won't be sorry.

CORRESPONDENCE

MICHAEL CAMPBELL—Age 13, 8543 So 118th, Seattle, Wa would love to hear from fans of the Rock 'n Roll Express, Dusty Rhodes, The Fantastics, Midnight Rockers,

the Von Erichs, the British Bulldogs, Misty Blue and Sgt Slaughter.

PAT GADOLA—Rm #204, Ralson Hall, Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Clarion, Pa 16214 would like to hear from any fans. Some favorites include Roddy Piper, the Funks, the Road Warriors and the Bulldogs.

JUDY LOZANO—Age 24, 14 Heather Dr, Suffern NY 10901 would like to hear from all WWF fans, especially fans of Rick Martel, Killer Bees, Rougeau Brothers, Jake Roberts, Brutus Beefcake and Billy Jack Haynes. Will answer all who write.

ANDY SCHACTER—Age 14, 3149 Gershwin Lane, Silver Springs, Md 20904 would like to hear from fans between the ages of 13 and 16 who like Brutus "the Barber" Beefcake, Rougeau Brothers, Hulk Hogan, British Bulldogs, Killer Bees, Tito Santana, Hillbilly Jim, Junkyard Dog and George Steele.

LLOYD LONDON—2 Pasture Lane, Old Bethpage NY 11804 would like to hear from all fans of Bruiser Brody, Ric Flair, Misty Blue, the Million Dollar Man, GLOW and Col DeBeers. If you think Brody is the greatest thing, don't hesitate to write.

PAUL BURRIS—Age 14, 505 Harrison St, Eldon, Mo 65026 would like to hear from fans of Jimmy Hart, Randy Savage and Jake Roberts.

JOSH KRAUSS—Age 14, W6714 Smock Valley Rd, Monroe, Wi 53566 would like to hear from anyone interested in WWF wrestlers, especially Brutus Beefcake, Randy Savage and the Hart Foundation.

PAUL PAGANO—54 Bell Rd, Bell Mawr, NJ 08031 would like to hear from fans of the Four Horsemen, Magnum TA, Dusty Rhodes, Nikita Koloff, the Garvin with Precious, Hulk Hogan, Barry Windham and all other NWA and WWF stars. Her favorites are the Rock 'n Roll Express. She will answer all letters.

SELENA KYTE—Age 18, PO Box 1022, St. Ann, Mo 63074 would like to correspond with fans from GLOW, NWF, EWA, EWF, AWF, USWF, ICW and anyone who likes the world's top ten women wrestlers.

MICHELLE ANNE BOURGEOIS—1412 N. Cumberland St, Metarie, Pa 70003 would like to hear from fans of Terry Taylor, the Von Erichs, Steve Simpson, Dingo Warrior and the Rock 'n Roll Express.

Bob Miller has great shots available. Write to him at PO Box 397, Nolanville, Tx 76559

WANTED TO TRADE OR SELL

ROBERT TRICE—1612 Sherman St, Alameda, Ca 94501 would like to trade VHS wrestling tapes of the WWF, UWF, NWA and World Class for any wrestling. Has 150 hours of WWF and 50 hrs of NWA, UWF and World Class.

JOE GRANA—258 Marlboro Rd, Old Bridge, NJ 08857 is interested in trading his VHS tapes of the WWF, NWA, AWA, World Class, GLOW, POWW, PWTW and Madison Square Garden for tapes of Florida, NWF, Japan and Wild West.

WILLIAM HICKS—645 G St, Springfield, Oregon 97477 has VHS tapes of Northwest wrestling and is willing to trade them for VHS tapes of Florida, UWF, ICW or Pro Wrestling This Week.

HENRY FREDERICK—2760 Dewey Ave Apt 3A, Bronx, NY 10465 is looking for a copy of the 1984 Parade of Champions card, the Lords of the Ring cassette, 1986 Parade of the Champions card, any old UWF cards and any Mid Southern cards with Jerry Lawler, Austin Idol, the Mod Squad and the Fantastics.

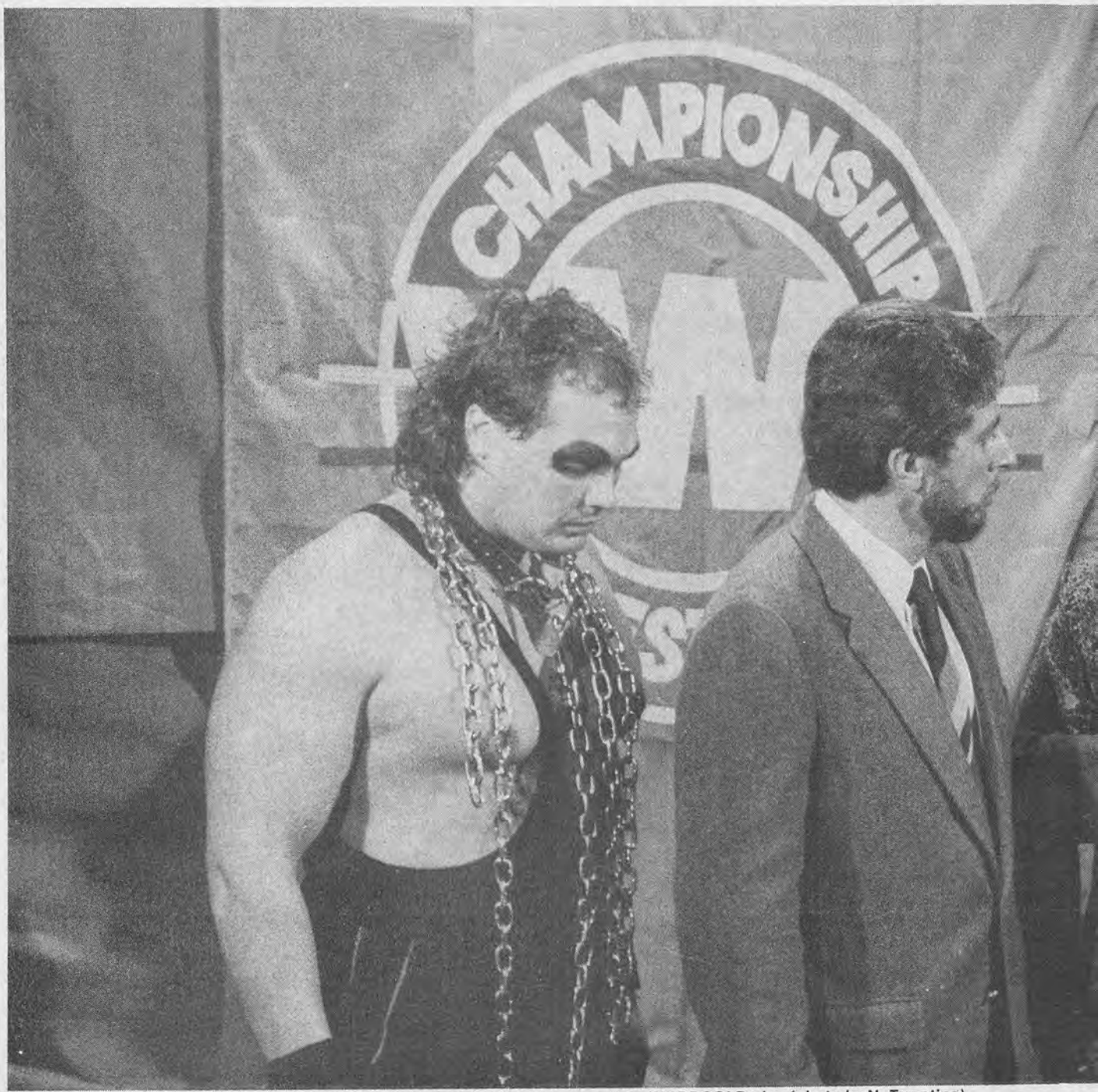
STEVE FRIEDLANDER—1150 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, NY 10461 has hundreds of hours of wrestling tapes (men, women, current and older) and is interested in buying selling or trading.

LES PUSKAS—3782 Mission St #4, San Francisco, Ca 94110 is looking for shows from the following areas: Continental (Alabama), Memphis, Kansas City, Portland, Carribean (WWC), Florida, Wild West (Texas), Japan (all men and women), WWA (Mexico), Stampede (Calgary), POWW or any women's promotion and Golden Age of Wrestling. In exchange he can offer: WWF (all cable shows plus Superstars and Challenge), NWA (all cable shows plus Worldwide), World Class (Championship plus Best of World Class 1984) UWF (Power Pro), GLOW and Pro Wrestling This Week. He also has videos dating to back to 1977 which he would like to trade for other older tapes. Please send a list of your collection.

WILLIAM GIL—73 Kingsland St, Nutley, NJ 07110 has extensive wrestling tapes of WWF matches, Florida and Japan. Please send a SASE and a letter on what you are looking for.

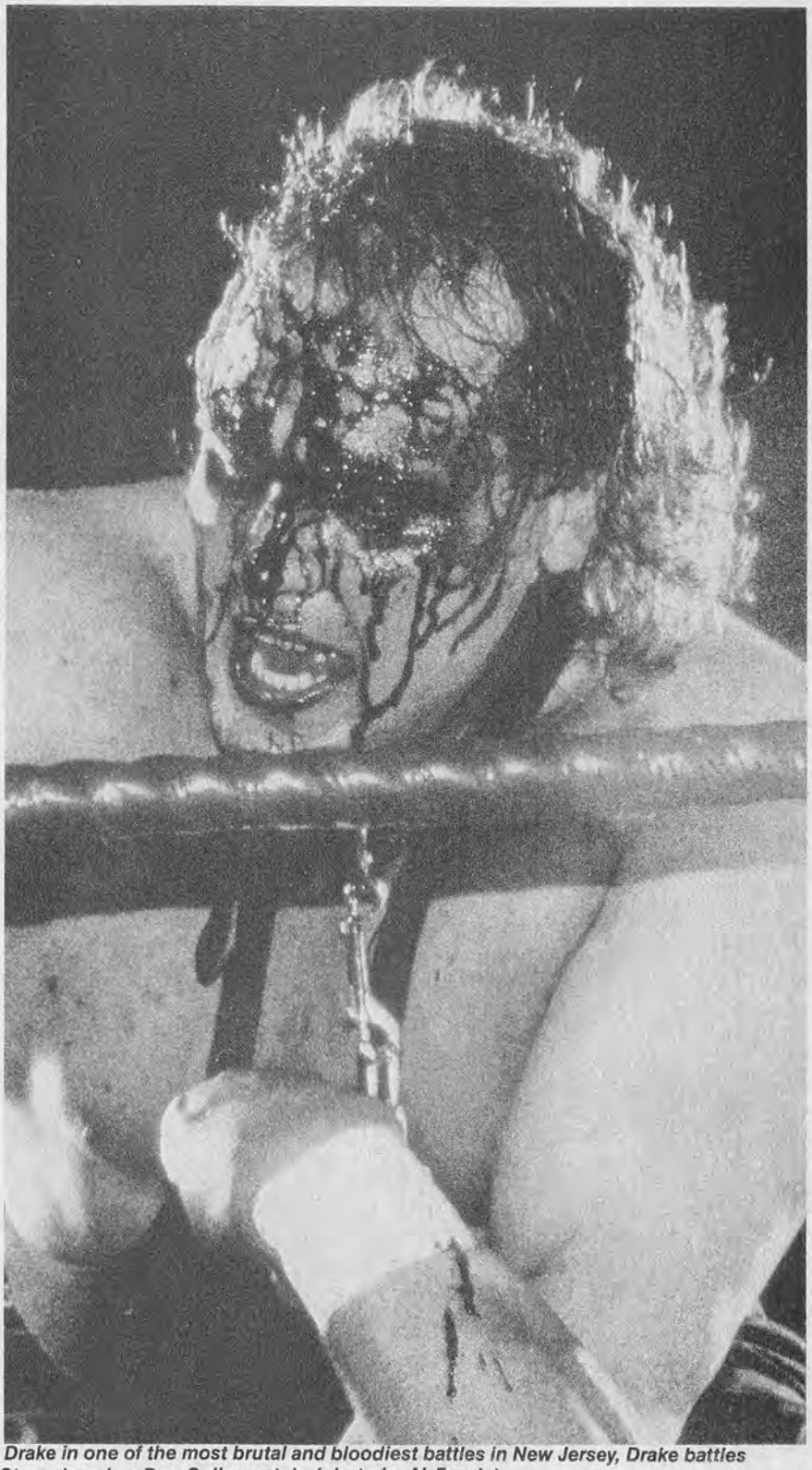
"D.C. 'MADDOG' DRAKE."
"N.W.F. WORLD'S CHAMPION"

By Brian Razzi, photos by Carmine DeSpirito



On the set of the N.W.F. T.V. interviews, Damien tells the world about his man, D.C. 'MADDOG' Drake. (photo by N. Tarantino)

New. Strange. Unpredictable. Dastardly. Those words describe only one man in wrestling today, the National Wrestling Federation's World's Champion, D.C. 'MADDOG' Drake. You fans who don't know D.C. Drake may just say, so what? I still don't know who he is. Well, D.C. is currently one of the best independent grapplers on the circuit today, and has battled the best of them to prove it. On any given night of the week, Drake can be seen battling the likes of Sgt. Slaughter, Bruiser Brody, The Fantastics Tommy Rogers and Bobby Fulton, Chief Jules Strongbow, Cousin Luke and Ivan Putski to name a few. "Slaughter, Brody, Putski, all of them and any of them I've beat. None of them have been able to defeat me yet," says Drake. "I feel that I can defeat anyone in the sport today. I take on all comers, friends or foes. Anyone that thinks different can step into the ring with me and find out." At his side D.C. Drake can often be seen with his manager, Damien Kane. "Drake is the N.W.F.'s World's



Drake in one of the most brutal and bloodiest battles in New Jersey, Drake battles Strongbow in a Dog Collar match. (photo by Al Fanale)

champion, and he always will be," Damien states. No one can defeat my man 'Maddog' Drake. Drake has defeated everybody placed in his path. Now we've got this 6'6" goon, Bruiser Brody. Brody is nothing. He has no wrestling skill and no physique. My man has that and a lot more." Drake tags with Damien. Most recently they've battled the Fantastics Tommy Rogers and Bobby Fulton. "Damien is the best of both worlds. He's a jack of all trades," Drake says. "He's as much a great wrestler as he is a manager. Those little pimply faced midgets, The Fantastics can go suck on an egg, because Damien and I have shown how much better we are than them. Next time we meet, we'll rip the Fantastics heads off and place them on our mantelpiece." Recently, Drake has been battling the great Indian Chief Jules Strongbow. The feud went on for months. It ended though, in a dog collar chain match in Bricktown, New Jersey, where Drake defeated Strongbow in one of the most bloodiest en-

Drake and Brody within the cage!

Drake whips Brody across the ring during their steel cage brawl.

counters ever fought in New Jersey. "Sure I'm the best, 'Chicken Feathers' Strongbow found that out. So will everyone else out there. You see, I really don't have to brag, my actions speak for themselves, and anyway Damien does most of my talking for me." As a final comment, Damien Kane had this to say. "Fans around the country, stand up and take notice of the most devious and unpredictable wrestler on the face of the earth today, D.C. 'MADDOG' Drake. If you don't you'll wish you did!"

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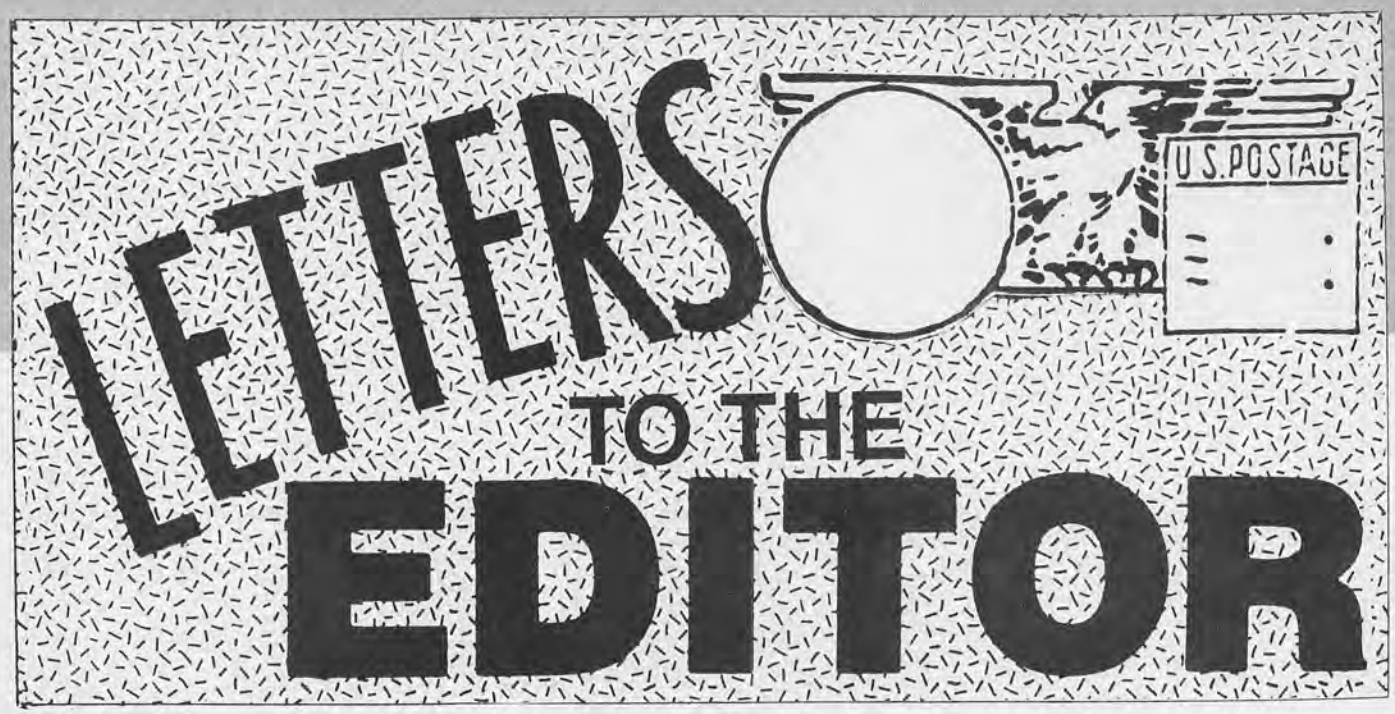

Send all letters to: Wrestling Eye, Jems Inc., P.O. Box 138, Marlboro, NJ 07746

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

My sister and I are great WWF wrestling fans. My sister's favorite wrestler is the Birdman, Koko B. Ware. She likes him because of his devastating dropkick from the top rope. I like the new tag team Kamala and Sika. They are the perfect team. I think they have a shot at the Tag Team belts. My sister has a suggestion for your #1 magazine. Could you have an article about different types of wrestling holds so that readers can understand more about tactics and strategies used by the wrestlers? Keep up the good work!

Aaron and Pam Boadway
Moose Jaw, Canada

Editor's Note: Check our feature called "Learn Your Holds" in previous issues.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I'm writing about your editorial in the Oct 1987 issue of WRESTLING EYE. I agree that fair play in wrestling is becoming rare. Imagine how disheartening it is for a wrestling star to train very hard, only to be beaten by an opponent using a foreign object. I am a body builder and I know that strength and fitness requires work. Why must huge and powerful men such as Abdullah the Butcher use such tactics? It's ridiculous!

I have been a fan of the Four Horsemen for quite a while and was especially fond of Lex Luger. But now, his use of a chair against Nikita Koloff and the interference of J.J. Dillon have disgusted me. Why should the "complete package" need to cheat? Maybe he's not complete after all. Well, I'm still hoping the Four Horsemen will show some real wrestling soon. Until then, I've got my eye on the Von Erichs.

Margretta Hawkins
Lebanon, Va

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I really like your magazine. Everytime I go to the store, I get it. I like your pin ups and the stories about wrestlers. I think you should have more on the WWF and please include more pin ups of Hulk Hogan, Brutus Beefcake and Jake the Snake Roberts. Keep up the good work.

Your best fan,
Greg Walters
Las Vegas, Nv

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

In today's wrestling world the Rock 'n Roll Express always comes to my mind. I always knew that they would regain their titles as NWA tag team champions (for the 4th time). They defeated Manny Fernandez and Rick Rude fair and square. However, Ricky Morton's and Robert Gibson's music careers have been so successful to the point that their smooth stage presence and singing abilities could make them the nation's newest singing sensation, and I often wonder which one they would prefer if they have a choice. If they chose music over wrestling, the fans of the Rock 'n Roll Express will have fond memories of their championship days to cling to. But, if they chose to wrestle, it will be their opponents who suffer. I hope though, that they won't have to choose between the two for a very long time.

Ivy Ann Ruiz
Victoria, B.C. Canada

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I love your magazine! Your magazine has all the information I want plus the pin ups are great! My favorite wrestlers are the Rock 'n

Roll Express and Barry Windham. actually, I love the NWA, they have the best wrestlers.

There's only one thing that makes me mad and that's the Four Horsemen. I CAN'T STAND THEM! When will they realize that Barry Windham, Garvins and especially the Rock 'n Roll Express are better than them? They can't win a match by themselves, they need another horseman for help. Something should be done about this. Either have the referee disqualify them or have two refs since one always gets knocked out anyway. This way the other ref could finally see what happened and make the right decision. Keep up the good work!

Cheryl Wittges
Seattle, Wa

Mitch Show & Sam Houston.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I just saw a match from the AWA with Mitch Snow. He was wrestling with the Central States from Sept. 86 to Feb. 87.

Just wanted to say that I'm glad he's climbing the ladder to the top. The AWA is one of the best federations. I'm enclosing a picture of Mitch along with Sam Houston (they were good friends here). Please run a story on him soon.

Tonya Nitcher
Topeka, Ks

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I like your magazine. I love all the pictures and articles that you have on the Armstrongs. I would like for you to do an article on Brad's younger brothers Scott and Steve. Both are in Champion Championship Wrestling. Also, have some pictures of Scott and Steve with the Alabama State Heavyweight Champion, the Bullet. I would really love it!

Tammy Farmer
Warrior, Pa

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

To start off, I'd like to tell you that I have just bought my first issue of WRESTLING EYE and I really enjoyed it. It gives me a lot of inside information about my favorite wrestlers. I will continue to buy this fantastic magazine. Some of my favorite wrestlers are Ricky Steamboat, Tito Santana, Billy Jack Haynes. Ken Patera, Billy Graham and last, but certainly not least, the dynamic, action packed, powerful and exciting Can Am Connection. These two terrific wrestlers are the main reason for this letter. My sister says that Martel and Zenk are the 'main event' in Saturday Night's Main Event. I thought the Can Am Connection was inseparable. My friends and I were all totally devastated when Tom Zenk left Rick Martel. I think this team could have climbed to the top. These two incredible wrestlers deserved a shot at the title. I wish I could do something to bring them back together, the way they belong. I'd really like it if Tom Zenk would at least strongly consider it.

A disappointed fan,
Peter Siemens
Eden, Ont, Canada

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I must begin by thanking you all for this fantastic publication. Finally, there is a magazine that concerns itself with *wrestling* instead of all the foolishness and hype. It's about time.

In your Sept issue you ran a brilliant article on former WWF champ Bob Backlund. This is a story that needed to be written and should be read by anyone who wishes to call themselves a "fan" of wrestling. I have been following the sport for more than ten years now, and in my mind, the only true champion of the last decade (perhaps barring Ric Flair), has been Bob Backlund. Certainly he was the finest champ the WWF ever knew. Whatever happened to the days when men who actually knew how to wrestle were the kings of the sport? Hulk Hogan may excite children and sell tickets, but Backlund, on his worse day would have pinned him easily. It's truly a shame that pro wrestling has fallen to a point where a man as awesome as Backlund is longer welcome. There is no room for him it seems, because he refuses to change his style and surround himself with morons who looked like they failed an audition for the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

I challenge the WWF, AWA and NWA to invite Bob Backlund to their areas. After all he has given to the sport, he deserves to be included now, while the sport is enjoying huge popularity. Backlund would, in my mind, defeat any world champion currently holding a belt today, for one simple reason...he knows how to wrestle. Not dance with a bird, or carry chains in the ring...but wrestle. He can wrestle. Gee, that's a strange gimmick.

It's time for the freak show to end. It's time for *real* wrestlers again. C'mon back Bob. Show the goofs what a true champion can do. Believe me, the people who love this sport miss you dearly.

Greg F. Gifune
Marion, Ma

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

First of all, I would like to compliment you on your outstanding job of WRESTLING EYE. I really enjoy the articles and color pin ups. Secondly, I would like to tell Ken Traino of Marlton, NY that Randy "Macho Man" Savage would waste the old "so called" champion Hulk Hogan. Hogan is getting old, he has never used scientific wrestling manuevers. Someday Hogan, you'll lose the title to "Macho Man" Randy Savage!

Tim Lapetina
Chicago, Ill

(Continued on page 76)

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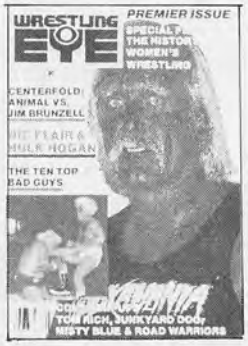

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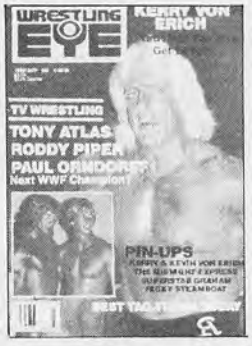

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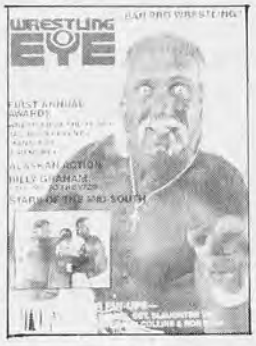

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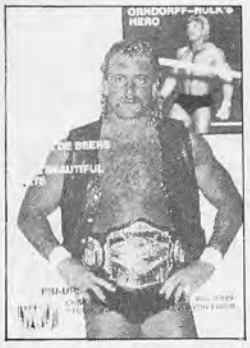

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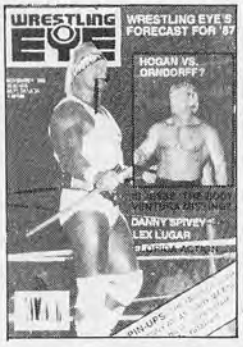

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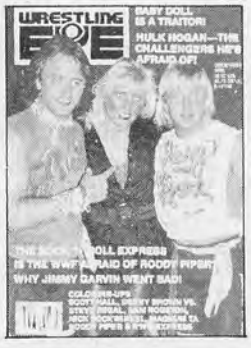

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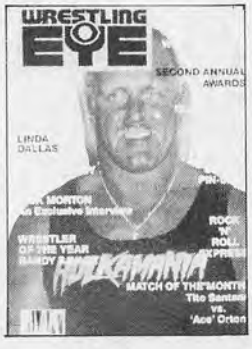

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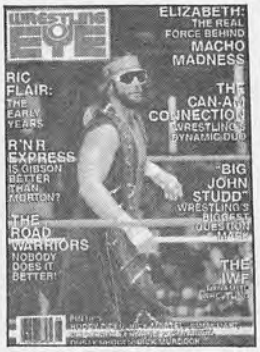

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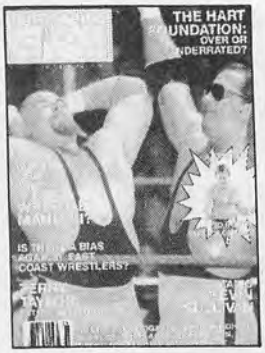

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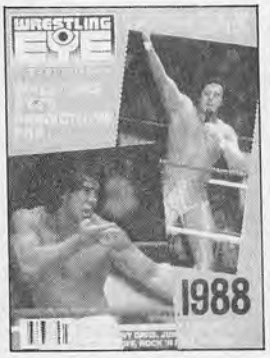

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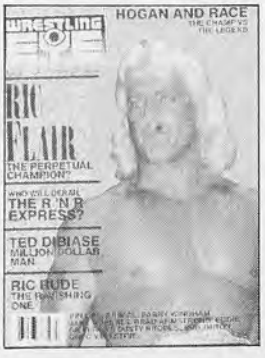

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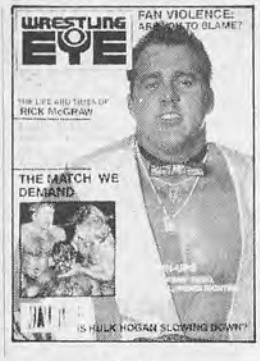

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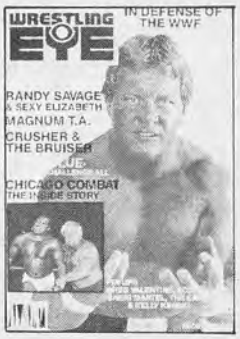

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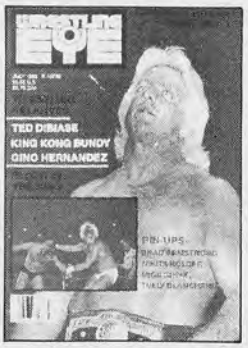

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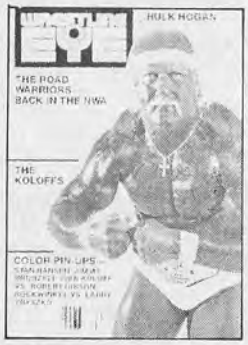

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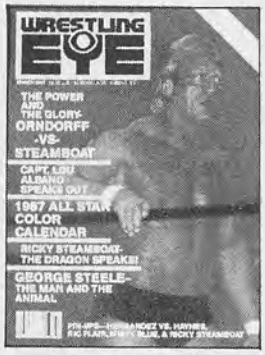

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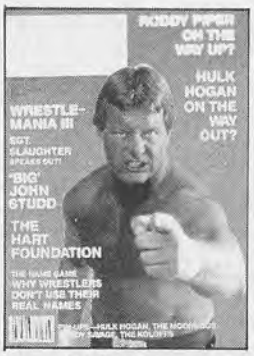

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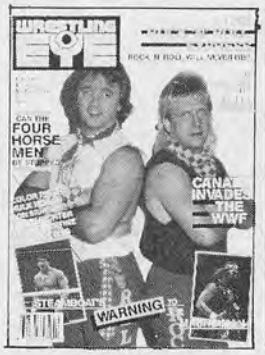

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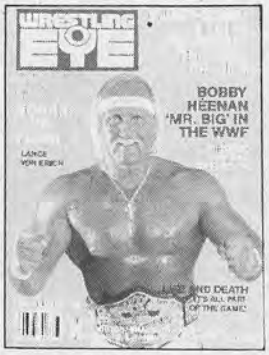

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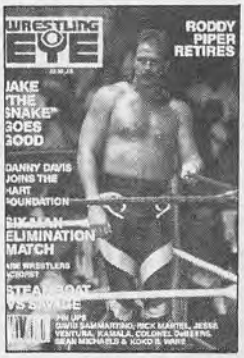

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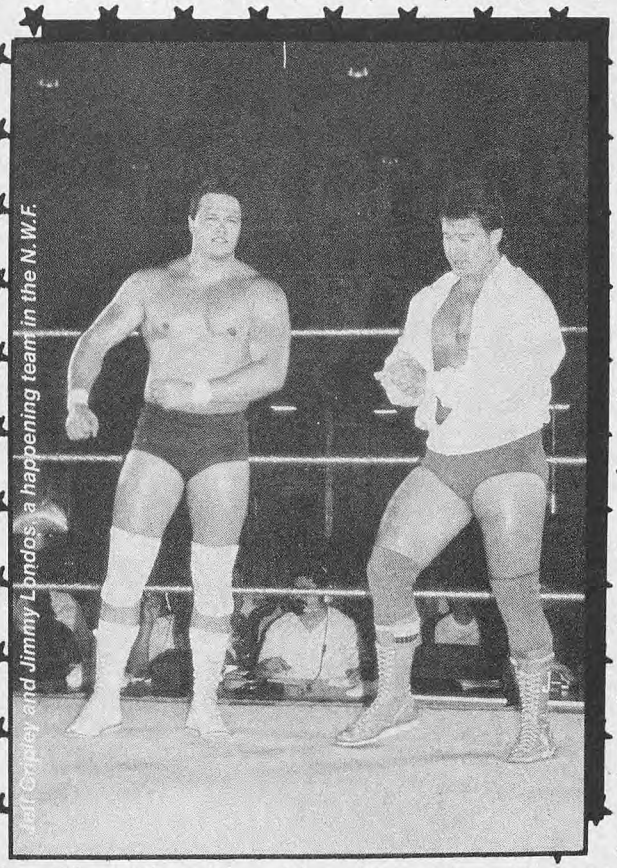
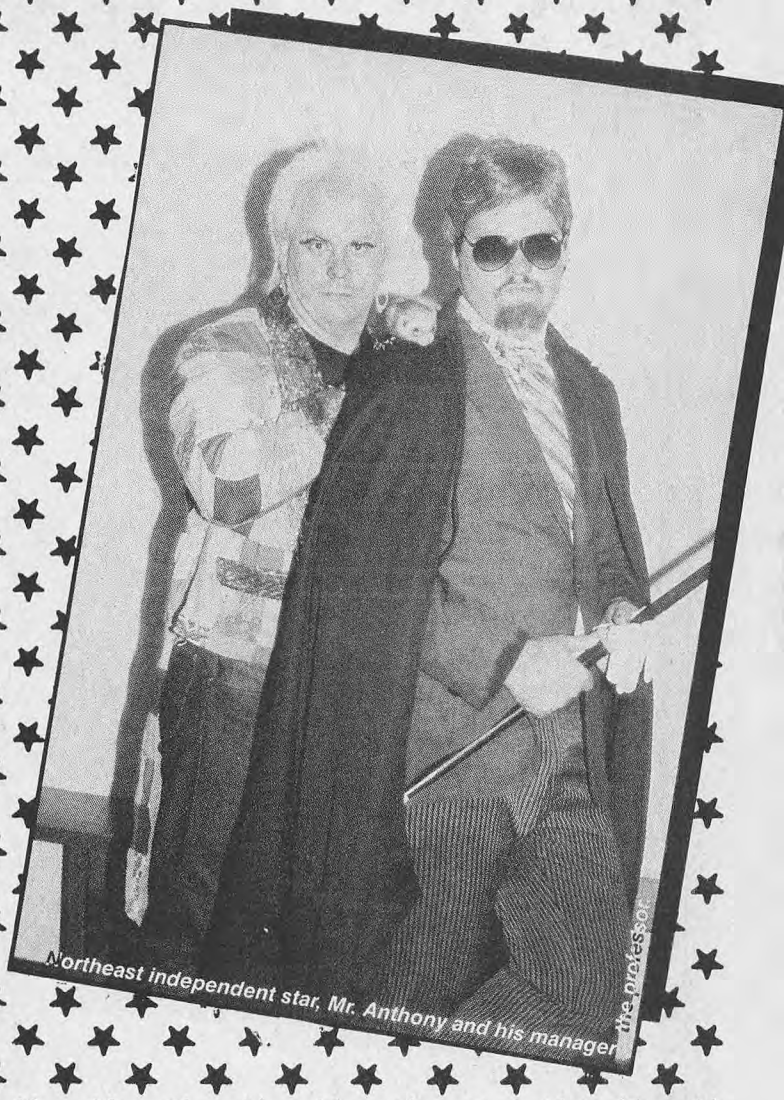
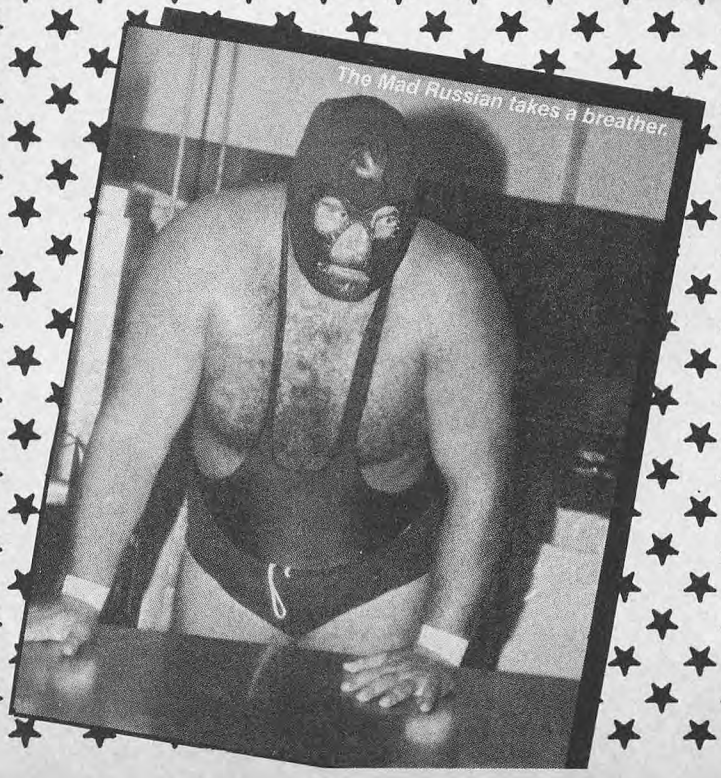


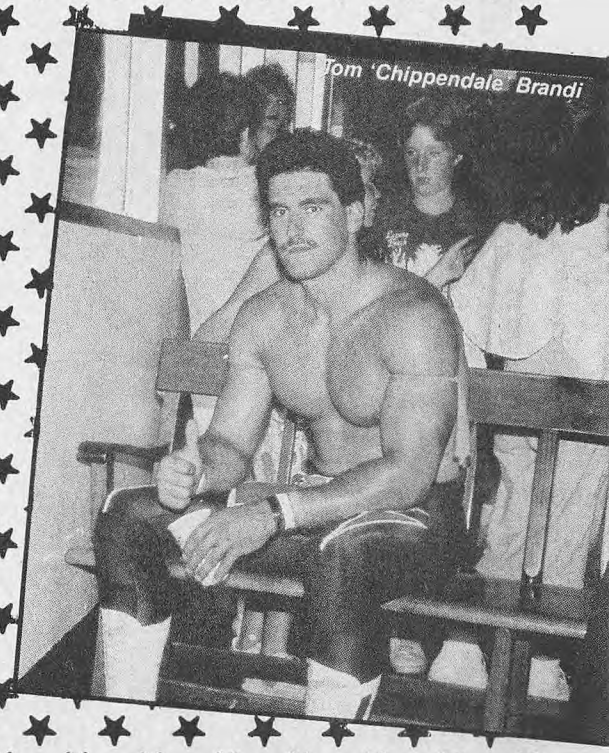
Jeff Cripley and Jimmy Londos, a happening team in the N.W.F.



Northeast independent star, Mr. Anthony and his manager the professor



The Mad Russian takes a breather.

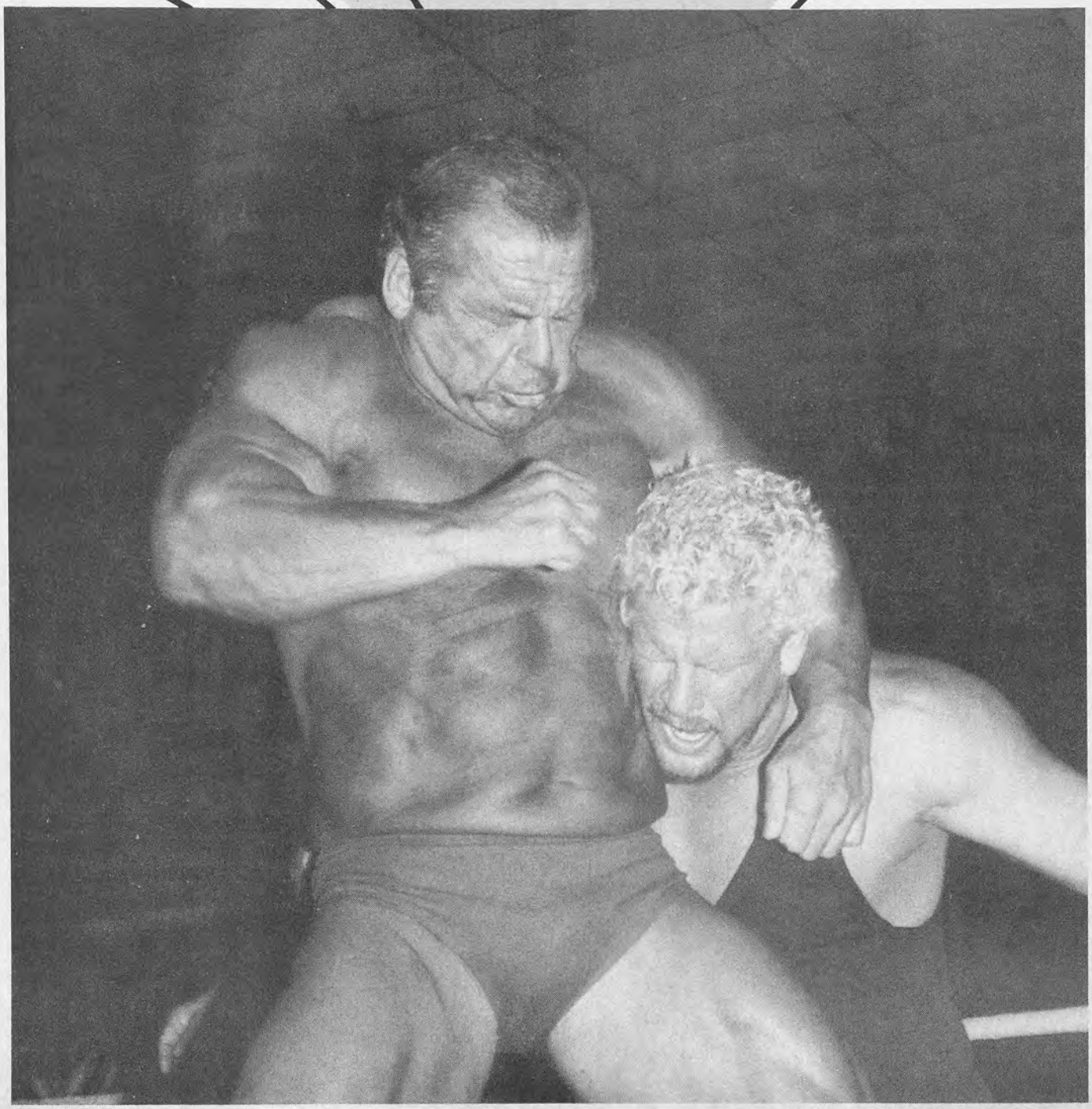


Tom 'Chippendale' Brandi

"IVAN PUTSKI"

"POLISH POWER PERSONIFIED"

By Don Liable/Photos by DeSpirito



Putski hammers away on David Shultz.

Ivan, for the past decade has had one of the most awesome physiques in wrestling today.

Powerful. Charismatic. Intelligent. Through the years of his highly successful career in the ring, these words have been used to describe Ivan Putski. Living in Texas most of his adult life, Putski gained national prominence some twelve years ago upon his arrival into the World Wrestling Federation. Since then the cry of 'polish power' has become a household phrase among wrestling fans. Putski, born in Poland, has experienced some highs in a career that has taken him from relative obscurity to main eventing in New York's Madison Square Garden. Never has a wrestler enjoyed the popularity over such a long period of time as Putski. His legions of fans show no signs of letting up. No one reason has been attested to his long list of accomplishments. When reviewing the riches he has gained over the years, one thing is for sure, Putski continues to push to obtain the seemingly impossible tasks.

Perhaps the most noticeable change through the years with Putski is his stunning physique. When the Poland native first hit the wrestling scene in the United States there was no argument as to the extraordinary strength he possessed. His power to this day isn't contested. However, several years ago Putski appeared to be enjoying one too many old fashion polish meals. His belly appeared over sized. Putski, today, will be the first to admit that his excess weight did slow him down in the ring and may have cost him several victories.

It wasn't too long when Putski became a bit more serious about his career and strived to reduce his body fat. For those who hadn't seem him in a while, it was as if Putski was a new man. When the new Ivan entered the scene, the rewards quickly came his way. After a few months of teaming with Tito Santana, the almost impossible became reality. The duo captured the WWF tag team championship belts.

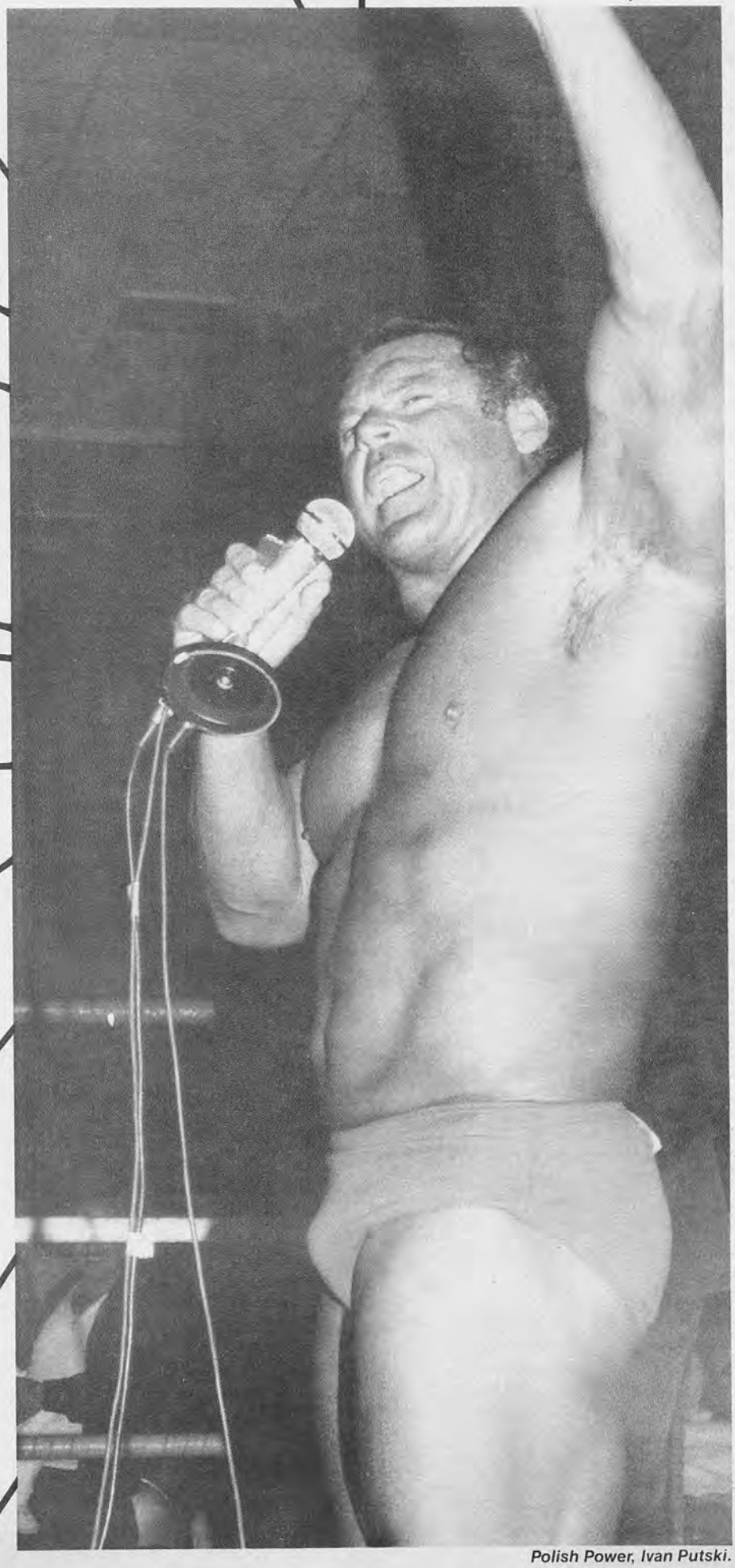
Whether in tag or singles competition, Putski and his 'polish hammer' finishing manuver prevailed. Opponents of all status fell victim to his victory streak. Johnny Rodz, the Valiant Brothers, Stan Hanson, Waldo Von Erich, Lou Albano was Ray Stevens all found out just what a tremendous task it was to try to better Putski in the ring. Recently, reflecting on whether his career has taken him thus far, Putski was quick to respond to the question of what his greatest victory has been.

'Having the tremendous fan support, an extremely loyal support at that, is what I'm most proud of. No matter what accomplishment I have achieved, or hopefully in the future will attain would have much significance without the fans support. During some of my toughest battles the difference for my coming out on top was the display of fan support,' Putski commented before a match in Dunkirk, New York.

Besides his impressive stints in the WWF, Putski has enjoyed a tremendous amount of success in the National Wrestling Alliance, the Texas All-Star Wrestling group and among various independent organizations.

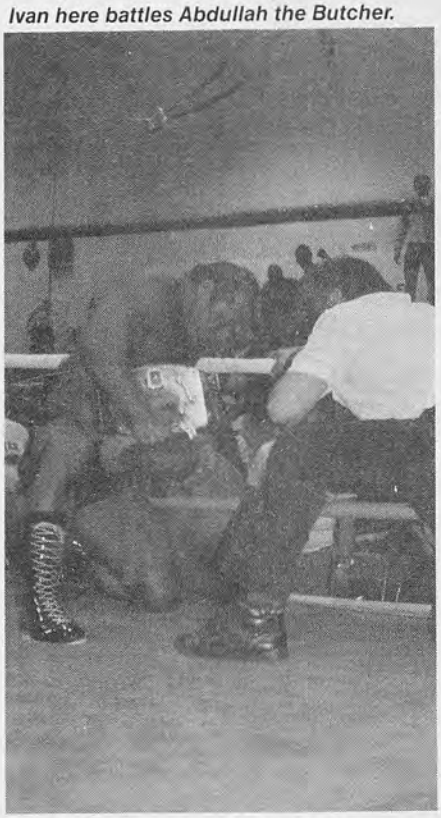
Since reaching celebrity status in the grappling game, Putski has been privileged to now pick his partners and have more say in the purse sizes of his matches. When signing on with Texas All-Star Wrestling, Ivan became an even tougher and more serious athlete. He took a rookie under his wing—his son Scott. Only 19 years old and with a dedicated father as a coach, the two faired quite nicely. Not only did they win a lot of matches but they did so in fine fashion over such notables as The Wild Samoans, Al Madril, 'Killer' Tim Brooks and The Spoiler. There was no denying or hiding Ivan's pleasure in seeing his son become an accomplished pro. During the school year, Ivan is equally proud of his boy. Scott attends Texas Christian University and plays on the college's football team.

These days Ivan sees action mainly on the East Coast. The Eastern Wrestling Alliance and the International Wrestling Federation is where you can find Ivan wrestling the likes of Dr. D—David Schultz, Johnny Rodz, D.C. Drake and Abdullah the Butcher. As a free agent, Ivan has been able to go for titles and meet a wide range of opponents that he most likely wouldn't be able to do if signed



Polish Power, Ivan Putski.

Ivan here battles Abdullah the Butcher.



exclusively to one promotion. 'Other than teaming with my boy, David Sammartino and Larry Winters have been two youngsters that I've had a great deal of fun and success with in the ring. I do miss not seeing and traveling with some of my friends of many years. Through the years you become like family, driving, eating and lodging together. Jay Strongbow, Bobo Brazil, Andre the Giant, Tony Garea and Tito Santana are fellows I miss and think of the most. There are a lot of happy memories between all of us,' I van said.

Sure there are the 'belt collectors' in wrestling. Bruno Sammartino has captured his share. Buddy Rogers won a couple world championships and Verne Gagne was the AWA champion for many years on different occasions. Ivan may never be able to proclaim himself a singles world champion but there are, at best, only a handful of wrestlers that will ever be able to acquire the title of 'the people's choice' and have as much meaning behind it as that connected with Ivan Putski.

A devoted family man, a sincere human being and a tough competitor. That is how Ivan 'Polish Power' Putski will be remembered by the fans when he finally hangs up the boots for final match. Thanks for the memories Ivan.

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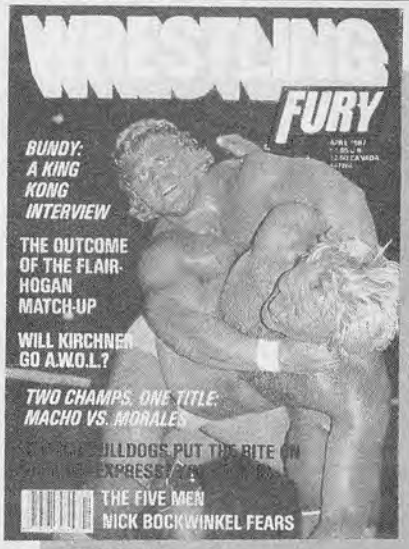

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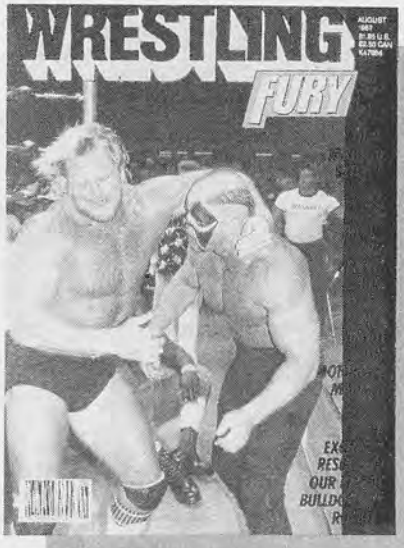

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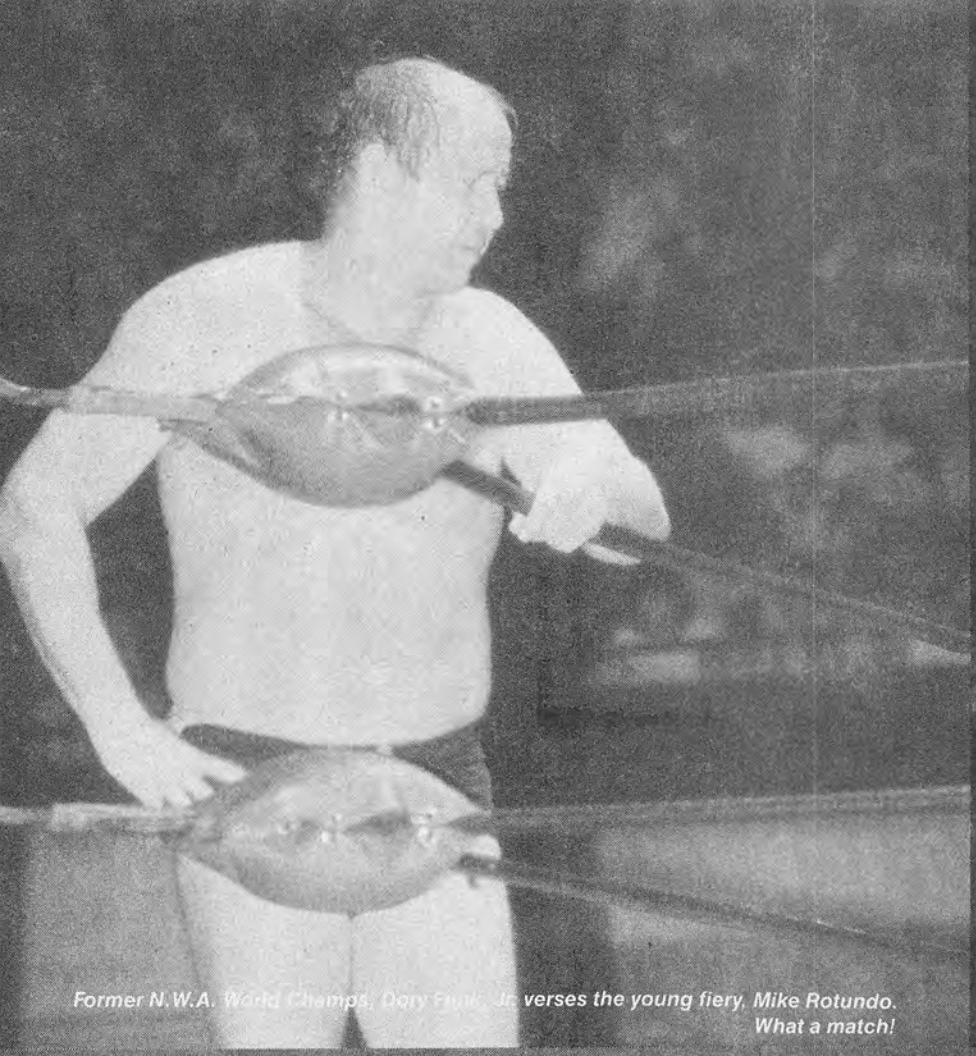
FLORIDA TITLE AT STAKE

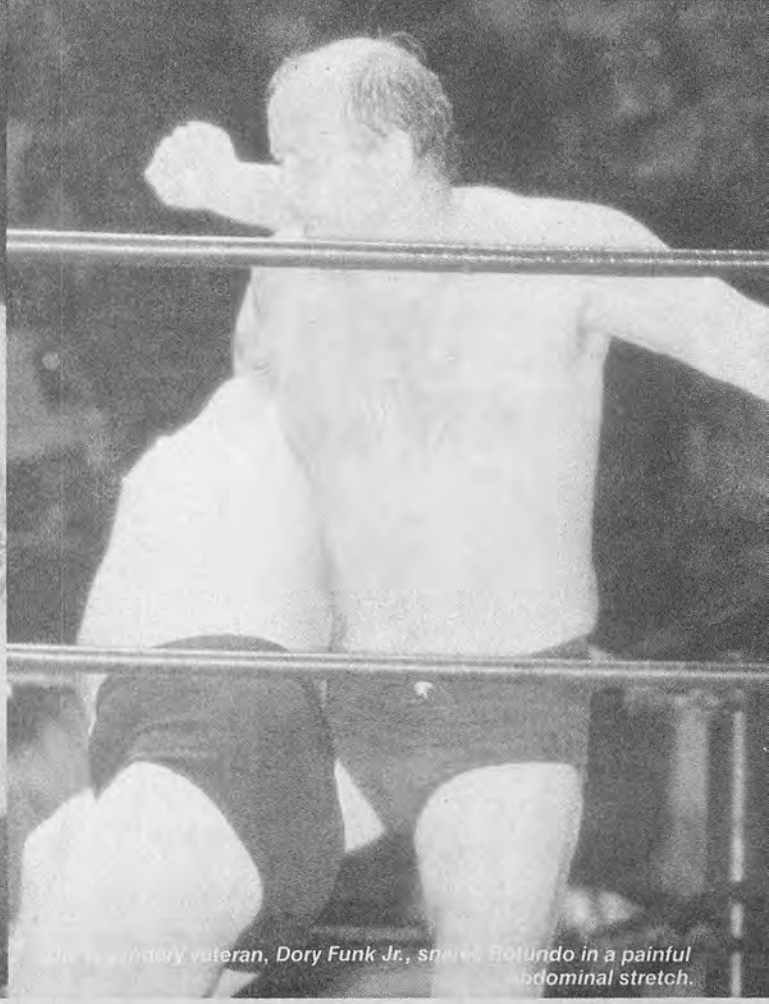
MIKE ROTUNDO Vs. DORY FUNK JR.

Coverage by Carmine DeSpirito



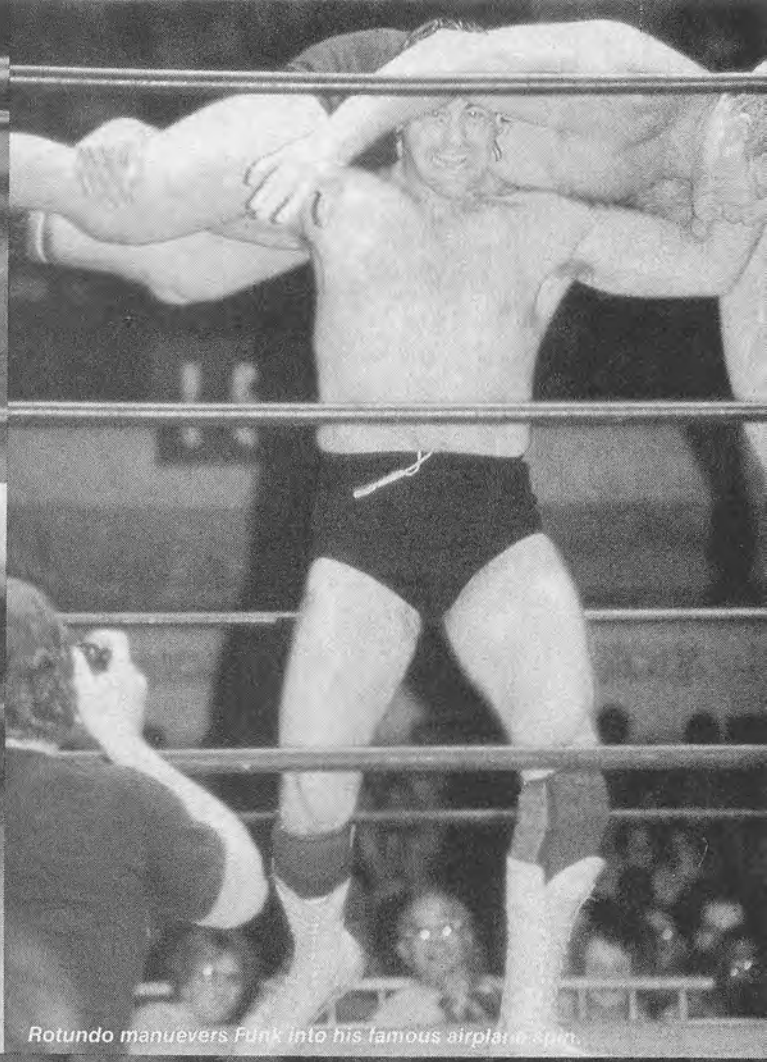
Former N.W.A. World Champs, Dory Funk Jr. verses the young fiery, Mike Rotundo. What a match!

The action leads into the corner.

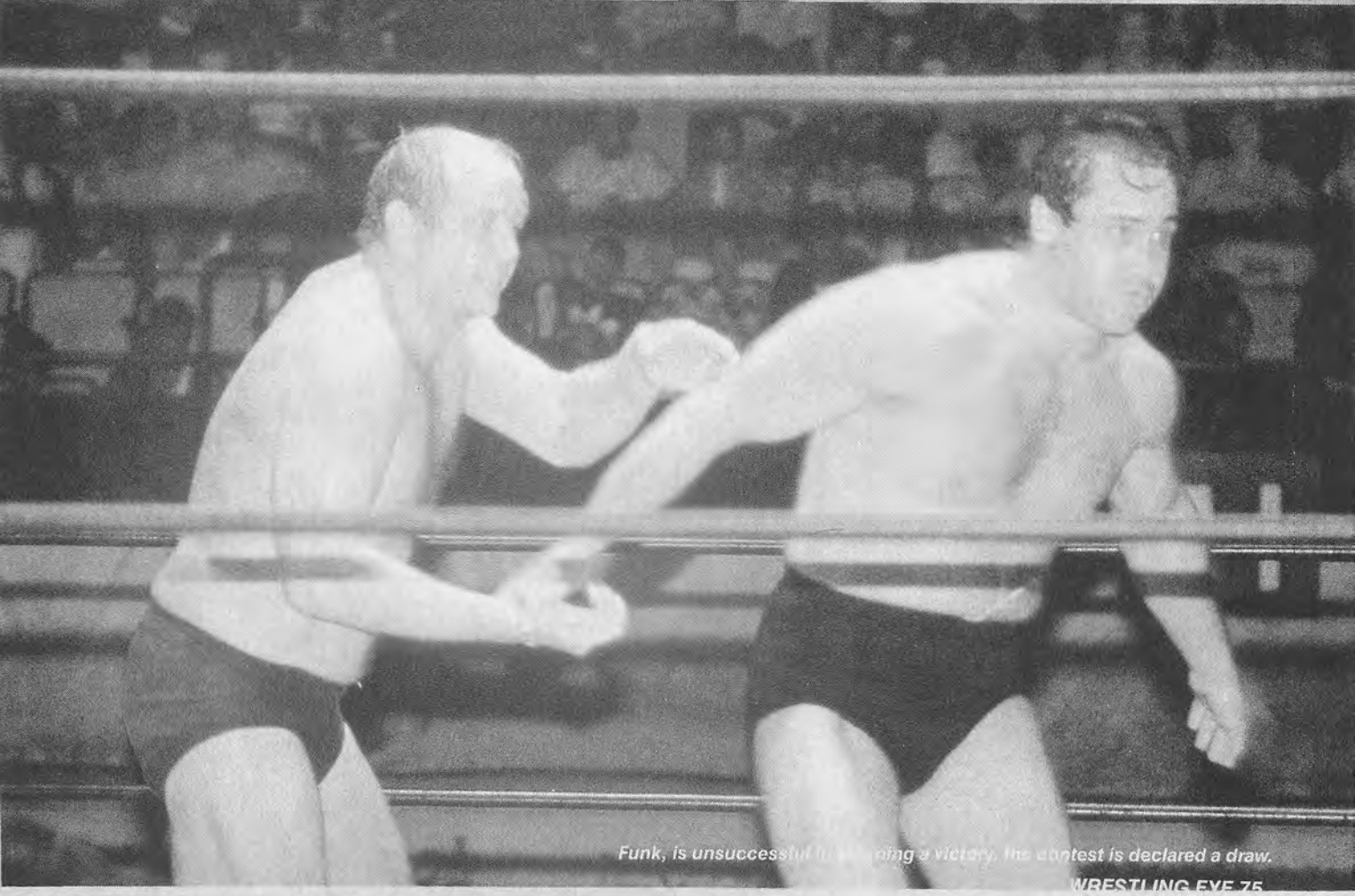


The veteran, Dory Funk Jr., shows Rotundo in a painful abdominal stretch.

Rotundo goes for the pin, but is unsuccessful.



Rotundo manuevers Funk into his famous airplane spin.



Funk, is unsuccessful in [illegible] a victory, the contest is declared a draw.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 65)

Dear Editor,

Three Cheers for WRESTLING EYE who finally decided to let the rest of the country in on what wrestling fans in New England have known for years—JAMIE WEST IS THE BEST! We've been following her meteoric rise in the USWF and her continuous unrelenting defense of the women's title.

Pictures may tell a thousand words but believe me, to see her in action is where its at! Thanks again for the great article and pictures. Please keep up the coverage of the USWF-both guys and gals.

Mary Eustace
Medfors, Ma

Editors Note: Check our article on Richard Byrne in this issue.

Dear WRESTLING EYE,

I think your magazine is the greatest. I really like your pin up of the real Dr. Death Steve Williams. I think he's really great. The Four Horsemen would not last 5 minutes with him in the ring. I would like to keep seeing stories and pin ups on my favorite, Steve Williams.

Gary Sepko
Bristol, Ct

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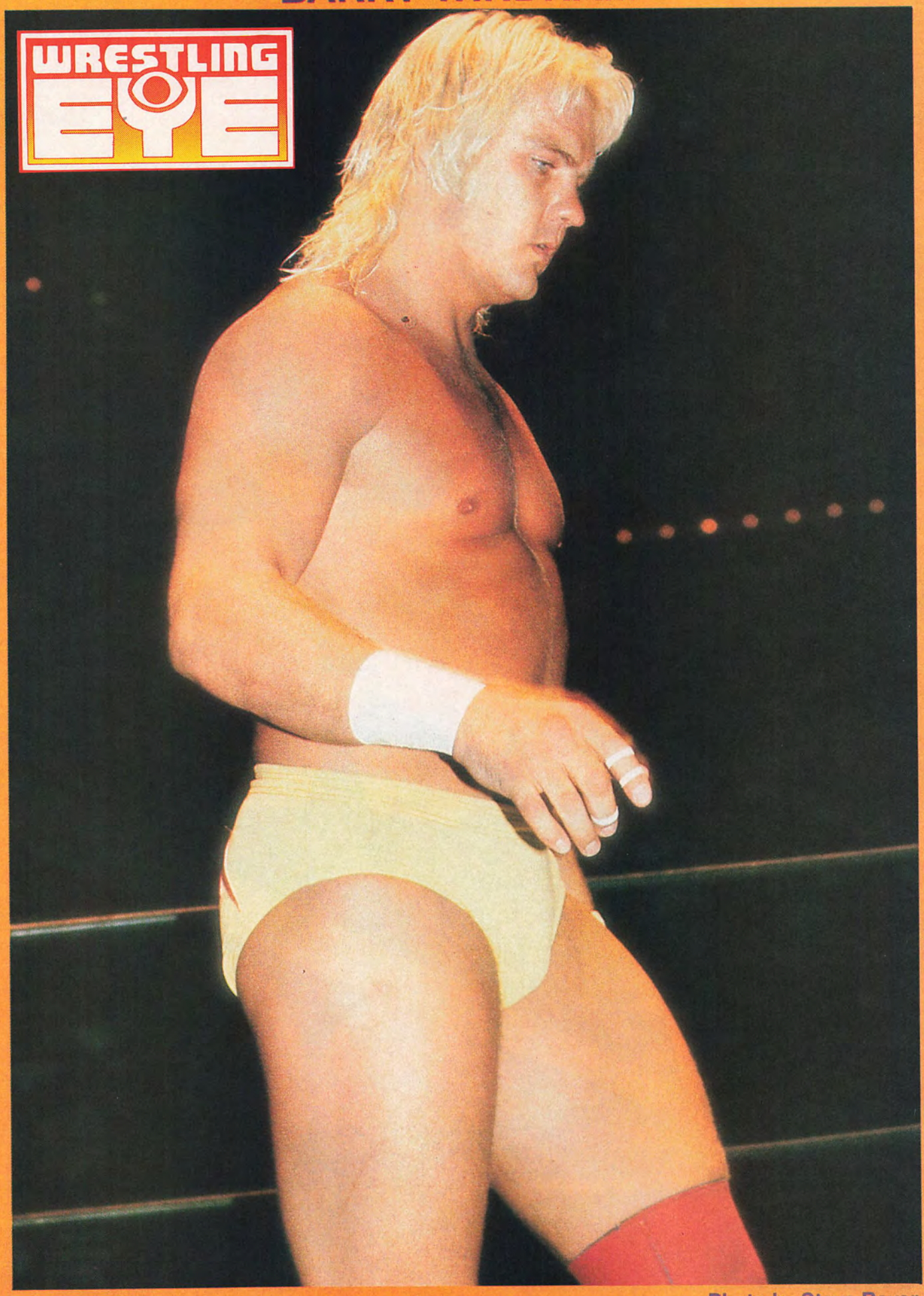
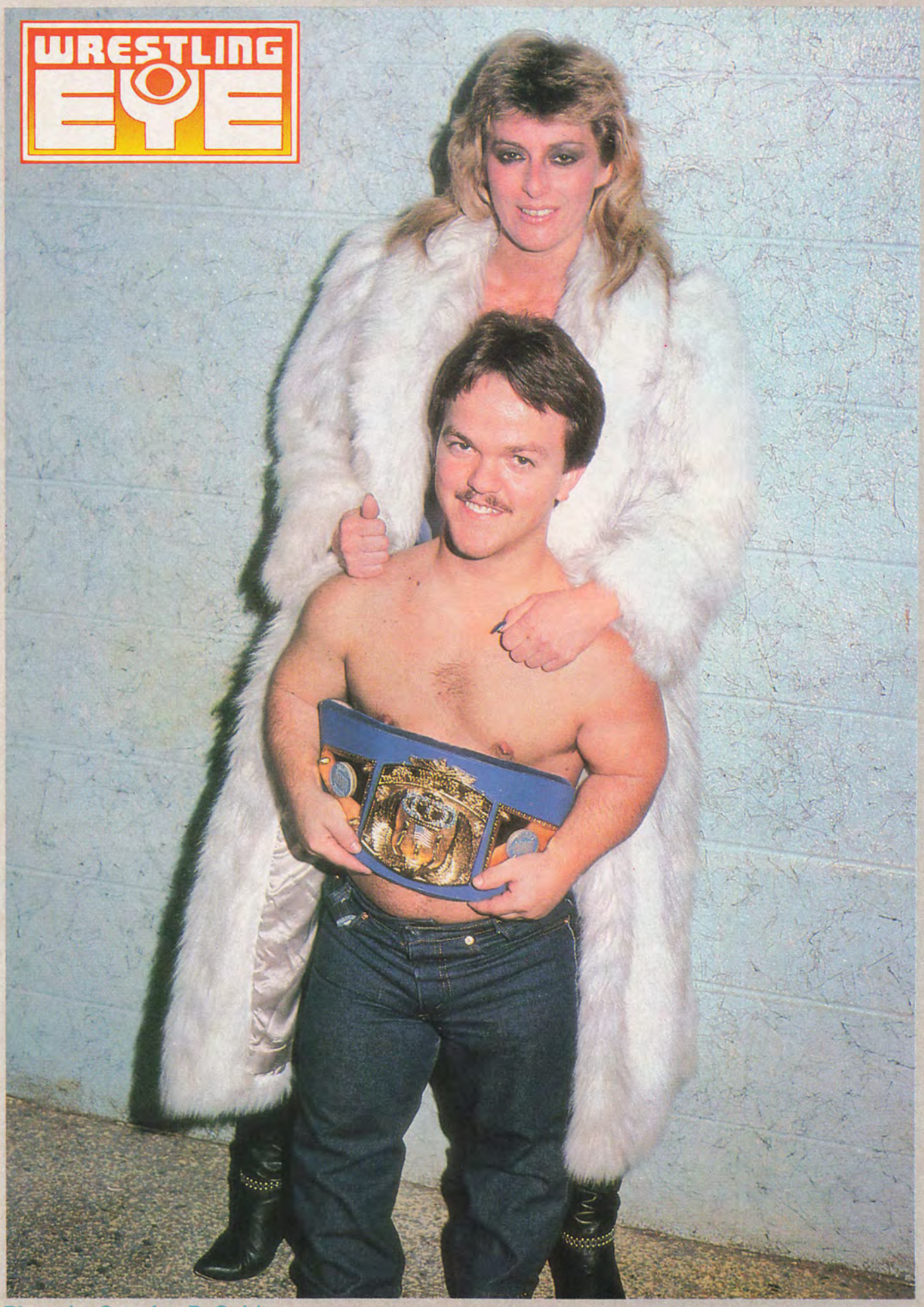


Photo by Steve Beyer

MISTY BLUE AND JOE KIDD



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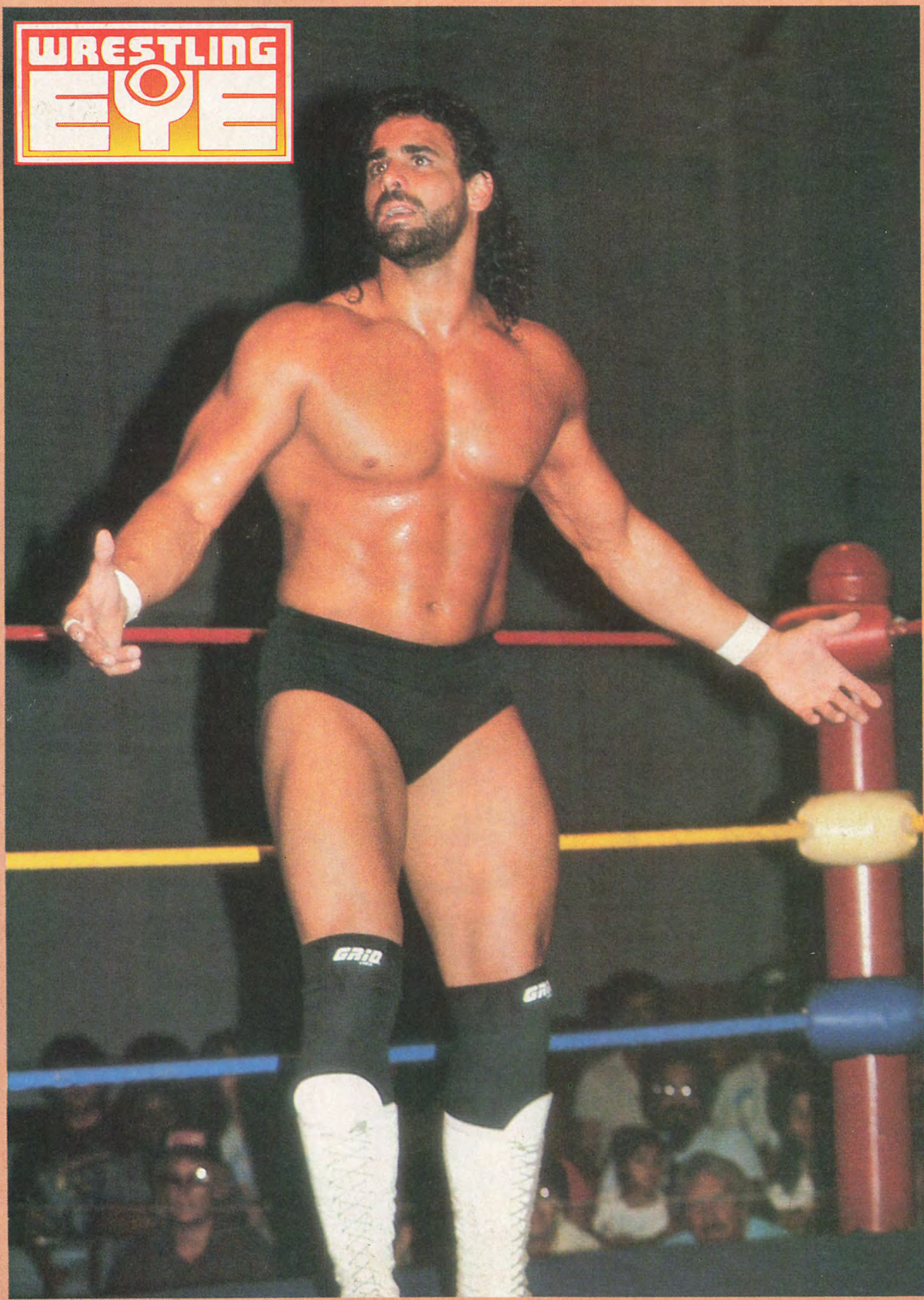
AL PEREZ



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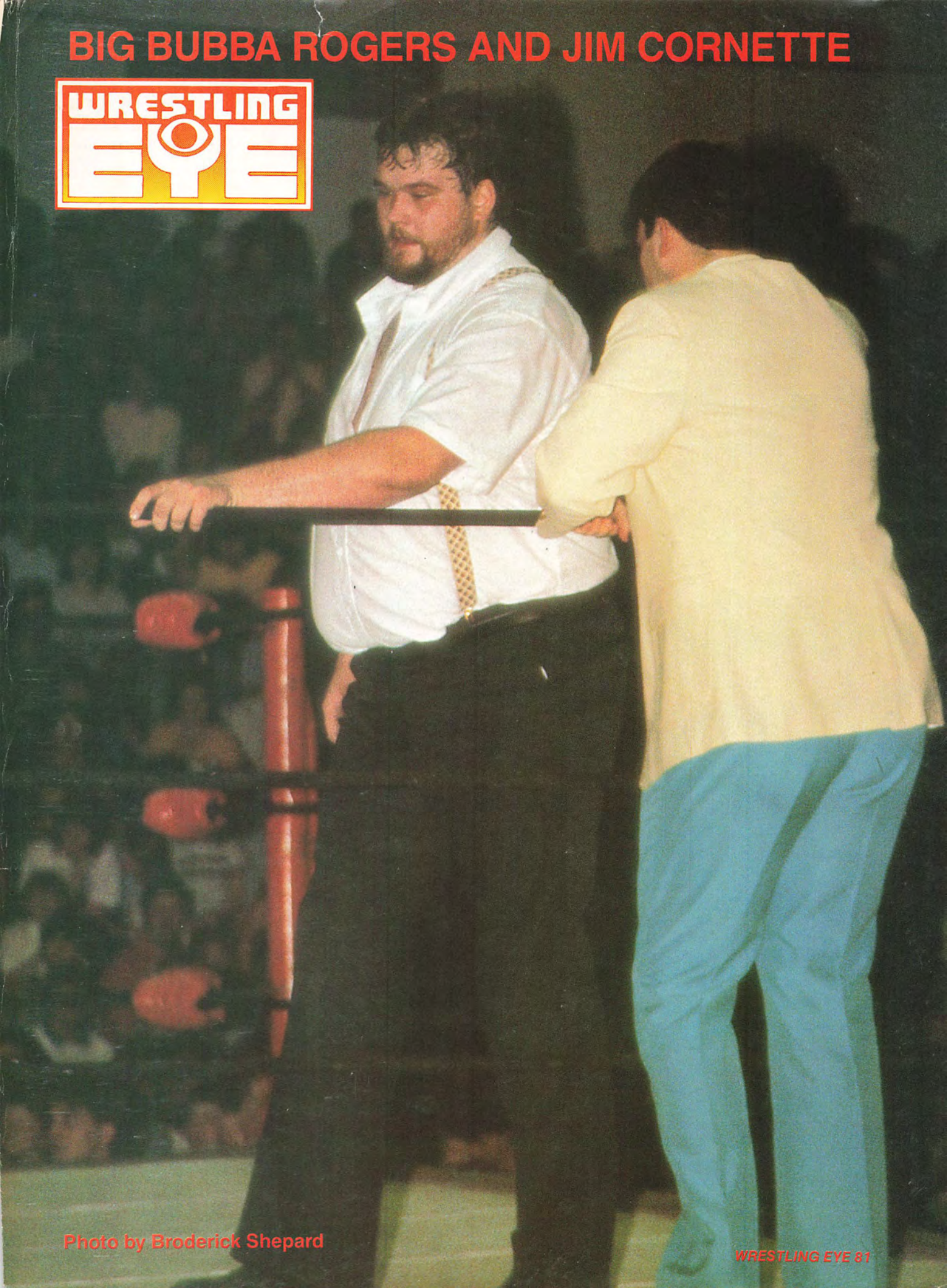
BIG BUBBA ROGERS AND JIM CORNETTE

WRESTLING EYE



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